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KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—INSTRUCTION in PHOTOGRAPHY.—MR. HARDWICK has a CLASS every Morning for INSTRUCTION on the SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES of PHOTOGRAPHY, illustrated by Practical Demonstrations in the Art. For a Prospectus apply to J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq.

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BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.—THE NEXT MEETING will be held at DUBLIN, commencing on AUGUST 28, under the Presidency of the Rev. H. LLOYD, D.D. D.C.L. V.P.R.I.A.

The Reception Room will be in the Examination Hall, in Trinity College.

Notices of Communications intended to be read to the Association, accompanied by a statement whether the author will be present at the Meeting, may be addressed to John Phillips, M.A. F.R.S., Assistant General Secretary, Magdalen Bridge, Oxford; or to L. E. Foote, Esq., Rev. Prof. Jellott, and Dr. Hancock, Local Secretaries, Dublin.

JOHN TAYLOR, F.R.S., General Treasurer.

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During the SESSION 1857-58, which will COMMENCE on the 1st OCTOBER, the following Courses of LECTURES and PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS will be given:—

1. Chemistry—by A. W. Hofmann, LL.D. F.R.S. &c.
2. Metallurgy—by John Percy, M.D. F.R.S.
3. Natural History—by T. H. Huxley, Esq. F.R.S.
4. Mineralogy—by Warrington W. Smyth, M.A.
5. Mining—by A. C. Ramway, F.R.S.
6. Applied Mechanics—by W. G. Adams, M.A. F.R.S.
7. Physics—by G. G. Stokes, M.A. F.R.S.
8. Instruction in Mechanical Drawing, by Mr. Binn.

The fee for Matriculation and Lectures (exclusive of the Laboratory) is 30s. in one sum, on entrance, or two annual payments of 20s.

Pupils are received in the Royal College of Chemistry (the Laboratory of the School, under the direction of Dr. Hofmann, at a fee of 10s. for the term of three months. The same fee is charged in the Metallurgical Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Percy. Tickets to separate Courses of Lectures are issued at 1s. 6d. and 2s. each. Officers in the Queen's or the East India Company's services, Her Majesty's Consul, Acting Mining Agents and Managers, may obtain Tickets at half the usual charges.

Certificated Schoolmasters, Pupil-Teachers, and others engaged in Education, are admitted to the Lectures at reduced fees.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has granted two Exhibitions, and others have also been established.

For a prospectus and information apply at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street, London.

JESSE REEKS, Registrar.

OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.—IN CONNECTION with the UNIVERSITY of LONDON.—TO PROFESSORS OF CHEMISTRY AND OTHERS.—The Trustees of this College are desirous of receiving proposals from Gentlemen qualified and willing to undertake the office of "PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY," which is about to become vacant by the resignation of the present Professor, Edward Frankland, Ph.D. F.R.S. F.C.S., who has been appointed Lecturer on Chemistry at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. The Trustees propose the allowance to the Professor of the yearly salary of 1000, in addition to a proportion of the fees to be received from the students attending the classes of such Professor, and which vary according to the nature and amount of the instruction required. The Professor is required to devote to the duties of the office so much of his attention as may be deemed by the Trustees necessary for the efficient discharge of his duties. It is required that applications may be accompanied with testimonials or references, and that each Gentleman applying will state his age and general qualifications. Communications addressed "To the Trustees of the late John Owens Esq." under cover to Messrs. G. & Son, Solicitors, Manchester, not later than the 5th day of September next, will be duly attended to, and further information afforded if required.

For a prospectus and information apply at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street, London.

Manchester, 14th August, 1857.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL and MEDICAL COLLEGE.—THE WINTER SESSION will COMMENCE on October 1, with an Introductory Address by Dr. KIRKES, at seven o'clock, p.m.

LECTURES.

Medicine—Dr. Duguid, and Dr. Daly.
Surgery—Mr. Lawson.
Descriptive Anatomy—Mr. Skye.
Physiology and Morbid Anatomy—Mr. Paget.
Chemistry—Dr. Frankland.
Superintendence of Dissections—Mr. Holden and Mr. Savory.
SUMMER SESSION, 1858, commencing May 1.
Material Medicine—Dr. F. Farre.
Botany—Dr. Kirkes.
Forensic Medicine—Dr. Black.
Midwifery, &c.—Dr. West.
Comparative Anatomy—Mr. McWhinnie.
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Further information may be obtained from Mr. Paget, Mr. Holden, or any of the medical or surgical officers or lecturers, or at the Anatomical Museum or Library.

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Further particulars and prospectuses can be had on application to Dr. Parker, Hon. Secretary, 32, Finsbury-square, or at the College.

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III.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1857.

REVIEWS

Russian Princesses Prisoners in the Caucasus. Recollections of a Frenchwoman, captive to Chamyl—[Les Princesses, &c.] Collected by Edward Merlieux. (Paris, Sartorius.)

"THE only governess who had ever been up Monte Ross" figured the other day in a musical farce. Here, in a railway shilling book, we meet with something more real, more portentous, and more piquant,—a live governess, and the only one, we assume, who was ever captured by Chamyl, the romantic Circassian chief, prophet, rebel, and liberator,—a governess, moreover, who has returned from her imprisonment (with other ladies) among the beauties of his *Scraglio*, to tell the tale of her captivity,—a governess, to conclude, who went out from France no governess at all, but who stumbled into her place, and its consequent misfortunes and martyrdoms, by accident. Madame Drancey, it is stated in the preface, set out for Tiflis, "with the view of founding a commercial establishment there." Being disappointed, however, in attaining her object, she was induced to enter the family of the Prince David Tchavtchavadzè as instructress of his elder daughters. This was at the beginning of the year 1854. In the spring the family removed to the Prince's estate at Tsinondale, a carriage journey of two days from Tiflis. Here they were joined by the Princess Varvara Orbeliani, three months before made a widow by the death of her husband in an engagement with the Turks. This lady was accompanied by her young son, her niece, and her servants. The party, enjoying this *villeggiatura*, had not gone from Tiflis, apparently, without being warned, half in jest half in earnest, that their retreat was perilously near the seat of war. Madame Drancey had been counselled by an unknown colonel on the promenade at Tiflis, not to go into the country unprovided with a private poignard of her own for defence, in case the tribes should make a stoop on their dove-cot. But the French lady was of good courage, and believed that the age, if not of abductions in general, for her abduction in particular, was past. The party had not been long at Tsinondale before the Prince David was summoned to undertake the defence of a fortress two days' journey thence. But still there seems to have been no alarm, not even when the sight of burning cornfields in the distance warned the household of women that the Lesghis were in the plain and coming nearer. Old inhabitants declared that though the Lesghis had been coming from time immemorial they had never got so far as Tsinondale. Accordingly the ladies waited, and not until their tenantry began to run would they begin to pack up their plate and diamonds. They sent out a scout to ascertain whether there was really anything to be apprehended. During the absence of this man—

A man who pretended to be an Armenian merchant arrived at the mansion, and asked hospitality for the night. He was travelling with money, he said, and, on the point of crossing the country, had been made so uneasy by the reported movements of the Lesghis as to have decided on turning back. The tale was probable enough, but the man's appearance, no doubt, produced a bad impression on the Princess Tchavtchavadzè, for, said she to her servants, "You must not let this man leave this place on any account. Disarm him, and if he tries to escape, shoot him." The severity of such an order was suggested by the times, but the Princess added, with her habitual kindness, "Take care of the man, and let him have supper." The servants only attended to the last order of the

Princess,—their neglect of her first hastened the catastrophe. * * Still the Princess Tina (an old aunt) continued repeating "The Lesghis will never come to Tsinondale."

The next morning, in the midst of the too-late packing up, while Madame Drancey was hiding her letters in her stays, and putting into her *sac de nuit* a French grammar and a little pious book,—when the diamonds of the Princess were safe in the country carriages, and while the old aunt, scared out of her serenity at last, was calling to some one to hide her tea-things in the granary, the Lesghis came. The rout and the terror caused by the entry of the ravishers were as terrible as if the event had not been foreseen. A Tartar, with hideous countenance, pounced on Madame Drancey and dragged her down the granary staircase under a narrow doorway, which bruised her head desperately. At the bottom of the stairs a man in a turban stopped the way, fought with the Tartar for his prize and carried her off. He dragged her—into the first court of the *château*, where [she continues] he handed her over to a couple of *noukirs*, who appeared to be entirely at his disposal. I understood his language no more than he understood mine. He gave me the bridles of two horses to hold, and in return for a motion of reluctance which he saw me make, he showed me a strap of leather with a tolerably expressive gesture. I blushed with shame, but saw that there was nothing to be done but to obey, to be resigned, and to wait.

The Lesghis pillaged the mansion without any apparent notion of the relative value of the treasures they found;—fancying, for instance, that an old glove was a prize as well as a piece of plate, and that pomade and chalk were as eatable as sugar and coffee. They left behind them the two eldest inmates,—one of these the Princess Tina, who had been so secure of their never appearing. The other women were put on horseback on saddles made uninhabitable by coarse nails, each one behind her new master, the children clinging to them, some here and some there,—one child died almost at the outset. The troop amounted to three thousand men, numerous enough to carry off their prize in the face of a rescue attempted by some Georgians,—amid shouts of "*Chamyl aman!*"—across the river Alazan through burning cornfields. The mansion of Tsinondale was burnt as well as pillaged. Madame Drancey's captor beat her brutally with a strap, tore from her all her trinkets, and seems only to have been brought to some sense or semblance of humanity on becoming aware that she was not altogether a common servant, but a person for whom a gentlewoman's ransom might be paid.—The beginning of the adventure, nevertheless, was the only portion of it in which the Russian princesses and their followers had to complain of personal cruelty; but nothing can be imagined more wretched than the forced march from the country pleasure-house to the spot at which they treated with the chief, by whose minions they had been captured. The son of Chamyl, it may be recollected, had fallen into the hands of the Czar, and not only did the chief insist that he should be restored in exchange for the captive princesses, but also demanded that a handsome sum should be paid by way of their ransom (for the satisfaction, he said, of his people). Till these negotiations could be concluded the ladies were to be held in the closest duress. The party, too, was to be separated. Ere the princesses, however, reached their "bower" (if thus by courtesy any private nook in which they were imprisoned may be called), they had to run the gauntlet through strange, savage halting-places. A good Mollah was their care-taker and conductor; but his

goodness could not mitigate such plagues as dirt, vermin, dismal lodgment, and savage company. Captive Princesses with their trains were rarities in those parts. The most courteous of enemies oftentimes was "put to it" when they had to be boarded and lodged; as the following somewhat rough passage may show.—

That day's march was long and painful. We had crossed two torrents, and halted for the night in a little hamlet, the blackened huts of which bespoke the greatest poverty of the inhabitants. They made many difficulties over our reception, finding our party too large. At last, they conducted us into an enclosure covered with brambles. We mounted a staircase, hollowed in the trunk of a tree, half-rotted by the rains; and arrived in a barn, opening throughout its whole length on a terrace where bee-hives were. I had already remarked, in other Lesghian villages, that most of these terraces were devoted to the rearing of bees. Bundles of hay were given to us, Indian corn bread, and a little ewe's milk cheese. The *noukirs* who guarded us were billeted in a neighbouring farm-house. The Mollah who had us in charge had received orders to let us rest there for some days. But all idea of rest was a dream. In the night we were tormented by the filthiest of vermin,—in the day we could not creep out on to the terrace without being stung by bees. Further, there was nothing to tempt us abroad, for if by chance we looked towards the village we only saw a few hideous women in rags, whose wretchedness was terrible to see, and whose filth made the gorge rise. On the Friday there was another sight. The men assembled in an open place—they were naked, and danced under a tree without leaves, venting cries in honour of "Allah," which resembled the howling of wild beasts rather than human voices.

The old Mollah, who had been nine years a prisoner in Russia, and had learnt the Muscovite language, did his best for his woe-begone and terrified prisoners, and was kind to the children, which humanity Madame Drancey assures us, is generally a Lesghian trait. But greater woe and terror were struck into her heart by the distinguishing attentions paid her on the road by a young Mollah, who went the length of wishing to buy her, and who absolutely offered twelve francs of French money for her, after he had been told by a malicious Russian woman of the party that she could make shirts and bread, and bring up children. Somehow, by good chance, this affair of barter was averted; and the captives got to Vedena, the head-quarters of Chamyl, unseparated and unpurchased. They were not allowed to penetrate into the precincts of this strict Mussulman without conforming to a custom which, for prisoners in such wild places, and when purchasers were abroad, must have proved re-assuring rather than oppressive. The women were to be covered up. Accordingly, the evening before they arrived at the chief's quarters, the old Mollah fetched a piece of coarse muslin, cut it out as thriftily as possible, and set them going with white sewing-silk and needles to make their own veils! By this time, some communication had been established betwixt them and their male relatives. The latter wrote a letter exhorting the Princesses to patience, and promising to do all that could be done in the matter of ransom as speedily as possible.

Such a prize was expected by Chamyl with some impatience. But the procession must have worn a drizzle-tailed, dejected aspect; since its entry took place in the midst of a storm of rain, which wet their guards to the skin. Madame Drancey's expectations of what a warrior chieftain's home might resemble were fulfilled by her finding herself before a sort of shed, seven feet high at the utmost, surrounded with palisades, and the picture of a sheep-cote. They had to pass through three courts—by

courtesy—ere they reached the apartments in the seraglio, which had been selected for their incarceration. There

we found [says *Madame*] a bright, well-made fire burning. We were in a sort of little cell, the walls of which were covered with a sort of pale natural stucco,—a sort of yellowish mud, worked up with water. A wretched threadbare carpet let us see that the floor was of coarse, badly-joined planks. The apartment might measure about eighteen feet by twelve; as to its height, a man six feet high could not have stood upright in it. Light came in through an opening about the size of a pocket-handkerchief. A bench was carried all round it, on which were placed our bundles, and the dirty carpets they brought us to serve for coverlets.

On their first day, the Princesses were treated as "company" and feasted with honey, bread, water, and *pilau*; but that was a bill of fare too expensive to be kept up, and the subsequent diet of these captive gentlewomen was anything but princely. On the day after their arrival and audience of Chamyl, they obtained the use of a wood-closet in addition to the splendid apartment described as laid out for the lodgment of twenty-three persons.—

During August and September some Georgian women slept in this damp and dark room, to which there was no chimney. We tried to make it wholesome by making a fire there in the day-time; but we were obliged to give that up because of the smoke, and the poor women crowding in increased our misery of imprisonment and heat,—since, as we had very rarely a candle, we were obliged to maintain a fire day and night, to enable the nurses to attend to the children. In the day time, this was made supportable by keeping the great door open; but at night, when we were shut up, and yet durst not let the fire perish, the heat compelled us to go out, at least so often as we could make for ourselves a way without tramping on such of the party as were asleep.—More than once we had hunger to bear as well as this. Very little food was distributed to us, and what food that was!—a vile bread, made with fat, which gave it a taste of tallow. To make this eatable, we were obliged to soak it in hot water, and then to roast it in the ashes. This dried the bread. Then we could take off the crusts, and get the inside down by aid of a little salt. In the summer, we had also Indian corn bread, which was endurable so long as it was fresh. When it was stale there was no digesting it. It affected our gums, too, and we were compelled to give it up. When bread and flour failed, they brought us heads of maize which we roasted;—inferior plums and apricots, half-spoiled ewe-milk cheese, ancient and mouldy enough to turn the stomach,—and salt meat, not without its share of maggots. There was nothing eatable, in short, but the onions, a rather dismal resource.

The presiding spirits of this prison-house are described by *Madame Drancey* as kindly and conscientious after their kind; and she is eloquent and picturesque in portraiture and in praise of Chamyl and his three wives,—doing full (if French) justice to the loftiness and sincerity of the warrior, and to the womanliness of his helpmates. But this part of her narrative is, possibly, the least trustworthy. The characters, motives, and graces of these persons, whose language she could only get at by interpretation, and with whose antecedents she could have small acquaintance, are portrayed and elaborated so neatly as to suggest the *cabinet* of a French man of letters in some *cité* in the literary quarter of Paris,—out of which come, as the market calls them, scenes from Algiers, or from Delhi, or from the Dogstar!—all capitally readable—all probable, and better (so far as they are more amusing) than if they were true. But if the details too closely recall to us the hand of some literary artificer, the general impression made on the woman of Paris by hosts so rude, whom she had such reason to hate and to dread,

brings with it a certain credit. Even she seems to have been aware that the fanatical Prophet of a set of poor hill-folk,—harassed by incessant warfare with a powerful and opulent nation, could hardly be expected to have time, if he had had money, required to purvey niceties. Even she seems to have taken a kindly and intelligent view of the hearts of the women, kept in subjection, bowed with superstition as they are, and unable, as they seem to have been, to comprehend what people who are in the hands of Destiny need care about vicissitudes and natural affections, and vain longings, and lasting sorrows. We do not rely too much on *Madame Drancey's* highly-finished portraiture; but a sketch of manners such as the following is worth having:—

When Chouanété (*Madame Chamyl the Second*), some weeks after our arrival, brought into the world her little daughter Zaidée, she was, they told us, very ill. We had to pass her door to get to the well. Chouanété's illness was attributed to us, and we were forbidden to go out of the seraglio when it was possible to avoid it. Each of those who went to the well must have a bit of her clothes cut off, and all these little bits must be burnt, in order to neutralize the power of the Evil Eye. Chouanété's illness lasted for a considerable time, and so long as it lasted we were compelled to remain shut up in our own corner.—The health of our own Princess *Annette* caused us sincere anxiety. At the instance of his wives, Chamyl sent a man to Kasafiourte to buy medicine for her. While the messenger was absent (a two days' journey) they brought to us the wisest of the wise women in the country. These beset with questions the Princess, who would have been only too thankful to be rid of them. The poor invalid was laid on the ground, and they brought a shovel used for baking bread, in which were some bits of flour; these they shook with great attention over the feet of the Princess. After this one of the women cut up a quantity of resinous wood into matches, made a little bundle of them, and planted it in the hollow centre of a round lump of yellow wax—put the whole thing (not unlike a chess-pawn) into a vessel of water, on which it floated—set fire to the matches, and when they were properly lit, placed the vessel on the chest of the Princess. * Nor was this all. They made a paste with honey, butter, and some herb, and requested the Princess to swallow it. So soon as their backs were turned it was flung away. On the whole, her youth may have done more for her disorder—fancied to be consumption—than these magical performances.—In due time the man sent to Kasafiourte came back, bringing what the Princess had made him buy for herself and Zaidée (*Madame Chamyl the First*). For every time that the Princesses sent for anything the wives of Chamyl availed themselves of the messengers to do commissions and to make purchases for them, also,—always offering to give one rouble for the thing which might be worth four. Of course the Princesses refused this, and the commission was thereby converted into a present. Chouanété had the same habit in these matters as Zaidée; but she was so kind to us that I ascribe it more to ignorance than to any other cause.

We have chosen the above as merely one among the many singular pictures with which this record of the Russian ladies' captivity is filled. Regarding other suspense and anxiety, it will suffice to say that many grave matters had to be settled ere the Princesses could be restored to their families, and ere the exchange of prisoners—made a first condition by Chamyl—could be accomplished. As to the ransom, the negotiations concerning "the monies" were conducted after a fashion which the world may consider as generically "Caucasian." The terms of bargain were screwed up with as animated a pressure as if *Isaac of York* or *Shylock* had been one of the contracting parties. Threats were circulated among the poor ladies, especially when post-day was at hand. They were to be separated—sent into worse places—and

sold, if Prince David could not "come down" with the money like a nobleman; and this because the money was called loudly for by Chamyl's staff-officers and troops, who were not to be appeased if it was not forthcoming. When, however, Prince David's delays made it clear that his Pactolus was drained dry by Ruin and Caucasian pillage, then rose up Conscience in Chamyl's camp, in the person of the generous Djammal-Eddin, the father of *Madame Zaidée-Chamyl*. This lady, as the eldest and the sharpest among the three chieftainesses, during the whole time of captivity, had "turned to account" every comfort which had been provided for their solace,—yet it was her father who, seeing that nothing better was to be done, mollified the inflexible Chamyl, who, at last, permitted the ladies to return into the bosoms of their families. Chamyl's son, of course, was to come home,—and great was the joy and ceremony on the part of chief and chieftainesses at the idea of reclaiming so important a member of his family. Whether the Caucasian Prince's delight on the occasion was equally lively may be doubted, if *Madame Drancey* is a fair witness. After the exchange was acceded to by Russia, it naturally became a matter of first importance to verify the article.—

Chamyl immediately sent to Kasafiourte the men in whom he had the most confidence, and who had known his son when a child. Djammal-Eddin had had his arm broken at Dargo, and must bear still some remaining marks from the small-pox. Besides these unequivocal proofs of his identity, Chamyl would have him asked if he remembered in what manner he had been made prisoner, and what were his father's last words. Six Tartars were charged with this mission. * They were, also, bearers of a letter from the Princesses, who recommended them to Prince Tchavtchavadzé. Zaidée availed herself of the opportunity to send grapes to her son-in-law; but we had by this time got to the close of February, and the grapes, having been badly kept, were in a wretched state. When the six Tartars arrived at Kasafiourte, they were taken immediately to the house of Prince Tchavtchavadzé, who was smoking in company with Chamyl's son. At the sight of his father's emissaries, a painful and singular emotion betrayed itself on the face of the young man, but he controlled the expression of it. Djammal-Eddin answered the plenipotentiaries in Russian, for he had forgotten his native language; but, as the Tartars went on talking, he recovered himself sufficiently to understand the conversation, though without being able to take part in it. The redoubtable grapes were presented to him, on the part of his mother-in-law. He gave them to a servant with the order to have them washed, which sunk him seriously in the good opinion of Zaidée, and all the women to whom she mentioned the circumstance. In their judgment, it was a piece of contempt; whereas it was merely cleanliness.

How far the cause of Caucasian liberty may be expected in future to thrive under the reign of one who would have his grapes washed, we are, happily, excused from attempting to decide. Indeed, we must leave this amusing narrative, after having added, in a few words, how Chamyl would not let his captives go without making them presents,—how, after having, like a true chevalier, abstained from looking at such fair temptations during their sojourn, he paid them several visits on its last day,—how Zaidée fitted them out with modest mufflers before they left the seraglio at Vedena, and gave them a stirrup cup of tea,—how a splendid charger was sent for Prince Djammal-Eddin, magnificently caparisoned,—how the whole population turned out to watch them depart—how they were driven in jolting carriages towards the trysting-place at the fortress of Courtintz by a renegade Russian—how they were received there with military honours by the Russian army—and

how they were handed over to their kinsfolk with an oration, lauding their high qualities and certifying to the good behaviour of both captors and captured. All, in short, was done that the most perfect courtesy could demand. One of the imprisoned party was set free too late,—we allude to our authoress, who was met on her return from captivity by the death of her mother. This followed, if it did not arise from, the agony of uncertainty and distress into which the poor lady had been thrown; a letter from Paris to Madame Drancey having been returned to her family superscribed with the false news that she to whom it was addressed had been massacred! Subsequently, the less terrible truth had reached her relatives; but her mother, we are assured by M. Merlieux, never recovered from the shock caused by the first intelligence.

Letters from the Slave States. By James Stirling. (J. W. Parker & Son.)

Quinland; or, Varieties in American Life. 2 vols. (Bentley.)

FACT and fiction, the photograph and the foot-lights, give opposite effects of society and politics. Mr. Stirling adopts the former; the Author of 'Quinland' the latter vehicle. The one observes society, and annotates tendencies as a sober political economist; the other colours manners and dismisses disagreements after the light and airy fashion of a novelist. The one, according to his own confession, abounds in talk; and the other is still more expressive in his silence. Each is serviceable; but the one book is to be pondered on a hard chair, and the other lounged over on a sofa.

Mr. Stirling has all the qualifications requisite for a keen political and social observer; sufficient reading without sciolism; just enough, and not over-much statistics; frugality in description, without a redundancy of fact; a knowledge of what to select, and where to curtail, with a combination of good sense and good taste, that makes him abstain from printing all he has written, or jesting on topics where jesting would be out of place. To metaphor he is not given; once only he is betrayed into comparison, having sought for rest where no traveller is likely to find it—over the boiler of a high-pressure river-steamer; for the most part condensing his fervour, save when, after six months' desire, he is greeted by the sight of a British policeman in Canada, or lights upon a cannie clan of countrymen, who are true to the "haggis," and resist the blandishments of "promiscuous dancing" in "ole Virginny." These American experiences extend over some ten months, and have been imparted to the author's friends in a series of letters, from the August of last year, when he sailed for the United States, to the present May, when he "cleared out."

The object of his visit being apparently the study of democracy under such vivid illustration as the North and South feud supplies, a survey of the well-traversed area between New York and Toronto is wisely omitted, and the report at once begins from Chicago, whose marvellous growth, wayward fortunes, and architectural contrasts excite our traveller's surprise. Hints on emigration succeed. Canada, Illinois, Indiana, Texas, and Iowa are compared, and a balance struck entirely to our mind, in favour of the last. In that happy state, an improved farm—that is, a farm with house and fences—may be bought at ten or fifteen dollars the acre, which, when sown, will yield thirty-six bushels; and a goodly family reared, without much trouble, off the trout and the game indigenous to the place.

At Cincinnati, the pork business, unpleasant

in its details, though blessed in its effects, is noted, as well as the multiplication-table sort of anxiety scored on the commercial face. The prevalent trade, it appears, has a tendency to make men of a sad countenance—an effect of mental arithmetic which Mr. Beecher "improved" on the Sunday our Author attended his church. That lively divine, in a lecture delivered on the following day, expressed his gratitude to the Almighty for the removal of Clay, Calhoun, and Webster, since whose death, he naively added, "he has led us into no further temptation." Not a point of interest, from the deck of a steamboat or the platform of a railway-car, escapes the practised eye of our observer; and not even when he is having a button "fixed" does he fail to improve the shining minutes with a sedulity, and now and then a precise dogmatism, which remind us of Head. How near Western civilization approaches to savagery, he discovers where the half-Indian representative for Minnesota is drawn to the Legislative Council on a sledge harnessed by dogs, camps out o' night, and lives on pemmican. In the North, he traces still, in habit and physique, the Puritan and the Plebeian, as in Virginia the Cavalier and Patrician,—alert democracy there baffling slow oligarchy here. In Kentucky, the full, broad, open face, and ample thews of the backwoodsman, who won the land which he holds with his rifle, are set off impartially against the sharp, lean, furrowed physiognomy and less liberal frame of the Eastern statesman. Nor are the more material signs of progress unnoticed. The hammering, the sawing and planing, on the Mississippi,—the long, unwavering iron-road that for 1,000 miles grooves the prairie, that neither requires grading nor bridging, costs only a dollar and a quarter an acre, and develops population and city life at the rate of 100 miles per annum,—inspire a just admiration. Against our meagre 300 miles of railway completed, and 3,000 projected, in India, set the somewhat startling Trans-Atlantic item of 22,000 miles of iron-way and 40,000 miles of telegraph. These indications of prosperity only, or chiefly, appear in the North and West. The South impresses our traveller, as it does all travellers, painfully. Macadam is unknown there. The roads are bog-holes or morasses. There is little agriculture:—the earth is grubbed with an implement as primitive as that used in China; and in many parts a patent plough would produce amazement, if not dread. The negroes, to be sure, are helpless, but, not having been educated to the use of any implement except the hoe, how can they be supposed to be capable of high farming? The silence, too, is dismal. You are in the slave zone, where the dominion of progress is less, and that of pestilence is more. In Kentucky, the people have an ante-diluvian cut, wear home-spun garments, and jog along *en famille* on pillions. In Georgia, you travel for hundreds of miles and never see a village, though now and then abandoned fields, which the young green pines indicate, are relapsing into wilderness. So, too, in Florida, where you may float for days amid such river scenery as Mr. Cropsey has so vividly portrayed, where the bearded mosses have waved centuries ere the coming of Columbus. The general aspect of the South, to the economical eye of Mr. Stirling, is wasteful, putrescent, and of sinister omen. Four millions of slaves propagating at the rate of six per cent. per annum does not strike him as a promising industrial fact. It may imply a certain kind of happiness, but it is the prolific happiness which seems inevitable to the lot of curates or Irish gentlemen with encumbered estates. The slaves themselves have a hang-dog, whipt look.

They live in hovels or chalets, with a brick chimney outside, a door, and an aperture for a window, and are in condition on a par with the worst-off Scotch paupers, which is not a small admission. Married masters procreate upon their wretched serfs; and Mr. Stirling expresses some honest indignation at having shaken hands with a landlord whom he afterwards learnt had tied up and flogged a negro waiting-maid for being late with breakfast. As grateful traits on the side of the slaves, he notes their teaching their children the name of England—their cordial desire for instruction—and their readiness to pay for reading. Against the masters, he enters their jealousy of discussion, *espionnage*, and the sleeping with loaded pistols under their pillow."

There is equally a want of capital and a want of enterprise in the South. In Kentucky, a usury law, making 6l. per cent the legal interest, does not check the flight of capital,—and the odds and ends of railways from Louisville to Nashville—the main Kentucky line only thirty miles completed—sufficiently indicate the want of passengers and traffic. The sanitary and criminal condition of the southern towns is appalling. The streets of Mobile are a mass of mud. To reach the hotel, a hundred yards from the steamer, you must hire a carriage, if you would not be mired. In Savannah, the oldest town in Georgia, there is no pavement; and in Montgomery and Columbus the sewers are simply ditches dug in the sand, on either side or in the middle of the street. Heaps of garbage, in New Orleans, reek round the marble basement of the chief hotel; and the social condition of this last place is evidenced by the activity of a club of Know-nothing Thugs, who control the elections with revolvers,—by the police item of eighty-five cases of stabbing and murder last year,—and by the magnificence of the St. Charles Hotel, where 850 guests dine a day, and, in the winter, southern planters smoke, dance, drink, woo, and "go off" as readily as one of their own hair-triggers.

On the great point at issue between North and South—Europe and America—Mr. Stirling has no cut-and-dry nostrum to propose. Being ready at figures, he does not think that 600,000,000l.—two-thirds of our English national debt—will be raised to buy off the planters;—he hopes nothing from transportation of negroes to Liberia or elsewhere;—he has rather faith in time, in the operation of self-interest, in the gradual advance of slaves in power and intelligence, and the emancipation of their owners from bitterness and partizanship, effects of which he reports favourably in western Virginia. On the whole question of democracy, his book contains pertinent and pithy sentences. Universal suffrage appears to him less perilous in America than it would be here,—the sturdy body of intelligent, self-reliant farmers in the North controlling the proletarianism of the towns, the "mean whites," sandhillers of the South backed by the Irish rowdies of the West. Of the proud, manly, generous qualities of the American character he speaks with a just sympathy—of their hospitality—their fondness for kith and kin—their filial and antique piety—and that strenuous energy and industry which place the United States in the van of the world. He notes with satisfaction the calmer and wiser tone of the American press—the good feeling to England evinced by cheering on receipt of the news of the capture of Sebastopol,—and passes not unmerited compliment on the refined and gentlemanly character of particular members of the literary body.

Take as examples of his manner and matter

a few extracts. Of the perils to the future of the States he thus speaks.—

"The lust of territory I hold to be one of the great evils of American civilization. It has taken deep hold of the fervid imagination of this young and energetic people; and as yet the sober views of the wiser portion of the community have not availed to check the national folly. But it is needless for Englishmen to preach moderation, so long as we ourselves are extending our empire day by day, and loading with honours proconsuls who present us with 'four kingdoms at once,' and so long as a general setting out to steal an Empire can write: 'We have no right to seize Scinde, yet we shall do so, and a very advantageous, useful, humane piece of rascality it will be.' We must pluck this Indian beam from our own eye before we can expect attentive listeners to our political homilies."

Here is a comparison of a slave and a free state.—

"Illinois and Georgia are about the same size, are both central States, and have nearly equal populations. I have been comparing them in different points of view, as fair representatives of the North and South; and the result is strikingly favourable to the former. Georgia has 58,000 square miles of area, Illinois has 55,405. The population of the former is 1,009,680; of the latter, 1,074,271. But here all similitude stops. Though Georgia is an old State and Illinois a young one, the progress of the latter is much greater. Her population advances at the rate of 7·6 per cent. per annum; that of Georgia, at 3·1 per cent. The ratio to the total population of the States has fallen, in Georgia, in twenty years, from 4·02 to 3·91; while in Illinois it has risen from 1·22 to 3·67. The unimproved lands in Georgia, in 1850, were over 16,000,000 acres; in Illinois, under 7,000,000. There were, in 1854, in Georgia, 884 miles of railway in operation; in Illinois, 1,262. And then, as to political influence, the representatives of Georgia had fallen in twenty years from nine to eight; in Illinois, they had risen from three to nine. Finally, Georgia contains 22·67 per cent. of immigrant Americans, and 1·24 per cent. of foreign immigrants. Illinois has 47·25 of the former, and 13·22 of the latter, making together, 60·47 per cent. of the whole population! Perhaps this last statement may help to explain all the rest. The great immigration is the secret of the progress of Illinois; but what is the secret of the immigration? Both States are fertile; in both nature holds out many inducements; the climate in Georgia is finer, the country is more salubrious. Why, then, is she left behind in the race of development and prosperity? I can see no reason, except that ever-recurring one—slavery. The hardy pioneer, himself a labourer, will not put himself in competition with brute labour, nor seek his fortune where labour is dishonourable. When Southern statesmen count up the gains of slavery, let them not forget also to count its cost. They may depend upon it, there is a heavy 'per contra' to the profits of niggerdom. * * * In Illinois all was life, and hope, and eagerness; here a dull stagnation prevails. In Illinois the cars were crowded with emigrants, or speculators, or men looking anxiously for new homes. The value and worth of land was the universal topic. At every station a new city, at lowest a new town or village, was springing up; and on every hand the click of the hammer and the rasping of the saw betokened that new inhabitants had pitched their tents in the land of promise. In Georgia, how different! Some growth there is in one or two towns; some increase of cotton, too, there may be; but there lacks the animation and spirit of Illinois. There is none of that bustle or hopeful eagerness. You travel for a hundred miles, too, and see no village; and not unfrequently you pass lands where the young, green pines tell you that abandoned fields are returning to their primeval wildness. Look on this picture and on that, and tell me if you can account otherwise than I have done for the different positions of these two families of the same vigorous people? With all this, recollect that Georgia is the most

go-head State of the South. It is the Southern Yankee-land. The Georgia Central Railway was, I believe, the first central railway made, and has now been opened nearly twenty years. It is a most creditable concern, well made and well managed, and keeps better time than any line I know in the States."

Here is a "geniwine" specimen of Yankee-dom, Capt. B—:

"He was born in Connecticut, but of course was too good a Yankee to remain at home. Some fifteen years ago he was an engineer on a steamer plying on the Charleston waters. Scraping together a few dollars, he purchased a small, worn-out steamer, and a crew of niggers; for you may be sure the Captain has no qualms on the subject of 'involuntary servitude'—always providing that it pays. So he went on his way rejoicing and money-making, till one day steamer, niggers, and Captain were all blown into the air. The steamer went to shivers, no doubt being rotten to the core; the niggers, most of them, were blown to eternal smash; the Captain himself, who was up high in the wheel-house (on the upper deck), fell to the bottom of the vessel, broke his knee-pan, smashed his head, fractured sundry ribs, and scalded his whole side. But nothing could damp the energy of this untiring man. In a short time he was afloat again, in a better boat, and with a fresh crew; and soon after he was enabled to build the new hotel at 'Enterprise,' himself being landlord, skipper, pilot, and engineer, besides being the great alligator-killer of the St. John's. He is now reputed to be worth some 50,000 or 60,000 dollars. So it is that men here go ahead. But mark, it is your 'Northern men' who succeed, while the inhabitants of the place starve on precarious venison and scant potatoes, and curse Yankee luck and impudence."

English workmanship Mr. Stirling thinks superior to American, though in the matter of cutlery we cannot agree.—

"Workmanship in America is mere surface-work. There is no sufficiency, no thoroughness in it. The American workman displays energy, ingenuity, rapidity to a surprising degree, but he lacks utterly the care and completeness of the British tradesman. His work is thoroughly 'unworkmanlike.' It bears all the marks of haste and imperfection; has no appearance of finish or minute care about it. The marble-venered palaces of New York often come down by the run. The clippers of New England sail well, but leak and damage cargo. They are splendid models, but slim in construction. Twenty-five thousand miles of railways intersect the American continent—they cross swamps and mountains, the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi—but their frail tresselwork is continually coming down; their bridges are crazy, their roads often unballasted, their whole apparatus flimsy. The consequence is, you enter their cars with fear and trembling, and thank God at your journey's end. I need not dwell on river and lake steamers; a prudent man makes his will before he goes on board. And so it goes on, down to the minutest article of domestic use throughout this country. There is not a lock that catches, not a hinge that turns; knives will not cut, and matches will not light. The doors will not shut, the windows will not open; and all this is made more striking and provoking by its contrast with the pretension to finish and refinement. You sit down on a fine velvet sofa, and are startled by coming down on a spring as hard as a cricket-ball. The hotel, whose doors are creaking and windows gaping, is gilt and carpeted like a palace; and the Mississippi steamboat, on which you are engaged or blown up, is gilt and painted, and goes twenty miles an hour: you cannot sail to destruction in greater luxury or at greater speed."

Here is a peep into Florida.—

"Florida is the Paradise of an idle man." So said a Georgian gentleman to me, and I believe it is pretty near the truth. The climate is mild and equable, so a man need not be particular as to house or clothing. Shooting and fishing will easily supply him with food; and, if he wishes to be very luxurious, by scratching the ground he may have

a few sweet potatoes, or a little Indian corn. Land has been bought in Florida at a cent per acre; but for that matter our 'cracker' need not buy land at all—he may squat and take his chance of being turned out. It is not every one who would wish to dispossess a 'cracker,' so long as the cracker had his rifle and an ounce of lead. Having thus established himself on land of his own, or a patch of Uncle Sam's, he may also, if he pleases, become a grazier at small expense of labour or money. Having bought, borrowed, or stolen a few head of cattle, he simply marks them and turns them out into the woods. In the spring he collects the calves and puts his brand upon them; and this, absolutely, is all the care or trouble he takes, except catching them when a purchaser appears. In this way some of these Florida squatters accumulate vast herds of cattle, without any exertion on their part. Nay, so lazy and careless of comfort are they, that I am assured there are men in these forests owning 5,000 or 6,000 head of cattle who have not even milk to their coffee; 'and that,' said Captain B—, 'I call pretty damned shiftless.'

Here is a portrait of the Nicaraguan hero.—

"I came down the Mississippi with a gentleman from Nashville who had been at school with General Walker, and who confirmed, in the strongest manner, the accounts of his reserve at school. Indeed he said Walker was the puniest, quietest milk-sop of a boy he had ever known; so much so, as to be an object of derision to his schoolfellows, who called him 'honey,' 'missy,' and other similar contemptuous names. Walker never joined the other boys in any athletic games; the only thing by which he distinguished himself was that he always knew his lesson better than any boy in school; and the moment school was over he ran home to his mother. In his leisure moments his favourite pastime was reading the Bible. Indeed there is little doubt that Walker possesses one of those peculiarly organized, imaginative minds which seize all objects in a strong and original manner, and to which, at one time or another, theology is sure to be a source of irresistible attraction. Walker first of all studied divinity, and it was probably only in consequence of the doubts and perplexities, that so often disturb the studies of our young theologians, that he abandoned that study for medicine. This, too, for some reason, he gave up after a time, and took to law, which, as you know, is in this country often synonymous with taking to politics. In New Orleans he connected himself with the press; but here, in addition to law and physic, he also had an episode of love, which, though not mentioned in the public accounts of his career, had, I believe, a great effect on his fortunes and character, and the story of which I had from a source in which I can put every confidence. At New Orleans he became acquainted with a young girl, very beautiful and intellectual, but deaf and dumb. Walker was at first attracted to this young lady by sympathy for her melancholy privation, but tenderer feelings soon arose, and on her part the young lady became passionately attached to Walker. Indeed, not being aware of the usual restraints which the conventionalities of society impose on females under such circumstances, she even displayed her affection in a more open manner than was pleasing to her friends. This led to some restraint, and misunderstanding, and estrangement; and the poor beautiful, but speechless girl, thinking herself deserted, sickened and died. From that moment Walker was a changed man. He went to California, fought a duel, and then joined a band of desperadoes. Thereforth the sickly, studious milk-sop was the stern and daring adventurer. The story sounds romantic, I confess; but it is the only intelligible clue I have yet received to the strange revolution, which is admitted to have taken place in this man's character. It must have required some great mental shock to transform the sickly, 'yellow-haired laddie' of Nashville into the stern Nicaraguan filibuster. Why should it not be blasted love, and the vision of his broken-hearted deaf-mute, dead for love of him? To an imagination such as his must be, a vision like this may well become a permanent and powerful reality, casting its dark hue over his whole career and character. One thing in Walker I do

admire: I mean his silence. For I agree with Carlyle, that 'silence is great.' In an age of babblers, it is much to find a man that can hold his tongue."

'Quinland' is a book that displays humour, though of the Brobdingnagian order. The varieties consist of smart men with red noses, glib cheap-johns, and 'cute shopkeepers that wait for customers by sticking pens over their right ear, rolling their light blue eyes sublimely, and putting their hands in such a position as to show off half-a-dozen large paste rings. The book is brisk, scenic, and entertaining.

The Official Illustrated Guide to the Great Northern Railway Company; including all the Branch Lines and Continuations. By George Measom. (Smith & Son.)

We fancy that there are very few persons who have not heard of the story of Goldsmith passing through a village and weeping at the thought that not one of the inhabitants was aware of what a clever fellow there was amongst them. In these days Oliver, on the rail, might have more weeping than ever fell to the lot of Greek hero, for villages are passed with the rapidity with which the Yankee in a gig drove by mile-stones, and thought he was in a churchyard. Nothing like our rate of travelling was ever accomplished in the olden times. Mr. Richard Turpin, on Black Bess, could not fly from Finchley to York at the pace of the iron horse; and even the old Leeds *Rockingham* which, on a few occasions in "opposition" seasons, went from Leeds to London in a single day, was not so fast as it seemed. It was a great thing for a man to boast that he had breakfasted in Leeds and had gone to Covent Garden Theatre on the evening of the same day. But to do this, he was obliged to breakfast at four in the morning, and even then he was lucky if he reached the pit-door of the playhouse in time to see the last act of the farce. Such feats, however, were spoken of as marvels in the stirring days when the *Courier* vied with the *Rockingham* in swift travelling and neck-breaking. In those days when, generally speaking, the pace was moderate, no author or speculator thought of compiling a guide-book for the especial journey. But now that there is no leisure to look at anything, we have ponderous volumes telling us all about it. This rule of contrary is to be found under other changes. In those days dramatic authors crammed the house on "first nights" and many a piece got "darned." But now that friends are not asked to support a fellow, nothing is hissed off the stage;—and we are very sorry for it.

We have not much to say for Mr. Measom's Guide. It is rather a book of advertisements to which are added some pretty woodcuts, especially of shops of agents and advertisers, and some letter-press which is not distinguished for elegance of style or the desirable quality of correctness. "Marvel is said to have lived at Highgate a little before and after the Restoration," is a bit of uncertainty at which Mr. Measom need not have hinted. We know how Marvel lived there, and what rates he paid. The author's omissions too are many. He mentions a few incidents that render Hatfield House memorable, but he forgets the most awful of all, namely, the death by fire of that aged Countess, who for beauty and coquetry had once rivalled Fox's Duchess of Devonshire. We fancy too that, in many cases, he takes old customs for present illustrations of manners. If we are not mistaken, "Borough English, by which the youngest son of the first wife is heir," was never "peculiar" to Godmanchester, where he says "the inhabitants are also stated to be of age, the males at twenty and the females at

sixteen." As a sample of the puffy nature of the book we have a specimen anent Boston, where the author notices "the premises of Mr. Noble, the eminent bookseller, known to fame as the publisher of Thompson's 'History of Boston,' and whom we may venture to call the Noble Longman of Boston." After this specimen of his venturous wit, we are not surprised at being told that "it has been usual to describe Lincolnshire as unhealthy from its name being associated with fens, bogs, and agues." We believe the fact to have been not an association of names, but that the agues existed as a natural consequence of the fens and bogs. At Hull, we meet with "Sidney & Co., Tea Merchants," but we hear nothing of "The Land of Green Ginger," and similar suggestive subjects to be found in this locality. Mr. Measom is not always so forgetful; and we are thankful for his record of the fact, that the minister of Bardney, who died in 1771, "directed all his manuscript sermons (about four hundred) to be buried with him." This good man's tombstone does not even bear his name. Could heroic self-denial go further?

When treating of Lincoln the author might have pointed out an excellent Sunday excursion for a man who wished to unite progress with the duties of the day. The traveller may offer his early prayers in Lincoln Cathedral, and may reach Boston in time for the morning service in the magnificent old *Stump* there. The train will convey him to Peterborough in time for the afternoon service. He may then proceed, and, obtaining a glimpse of Ely by the way, he may dine at Cambridge, and have his choice of evening sermons among preachers where choice is really an embarrassment. We have put the line here to such use, and have found profit and pleasure in it.

We will do Mr. Measom the justice to say that he does not omit to make record of the follies of great personages with small minds, whose mansions he praises. Here is a sample connected with Stamford and the owner of Burleigh. "The Marquis of Exeter opposed the continuation of this line through Stamford, and in consequence of this the cost of the present line [the branch from Essendine to Stamford] has been 70,000*l.*, leaving all hopes of a dividend looming in the dim future." Such traits are better worth registering than others like the following, which are as plentiful as plums,— "In gratitude for creature comforts, we cannot omit mention of the choice grocery store established, &c. &c." The author has some pages devoted to London amusements, for the benefit of visitors from the country. All these are written in the very worst taste. Every manager is superlative; and the nauseous flattery is piled mountains high. It is nonsense to speak of any performer in our time as *incomparable*. A little more southward we find that "Buckstone and the Haymarket are *synonymous*," a fact of which we were not aware. Then, according to this book, we have only one Italian Opera, that in the Haymarket. On the boards of this stage the author places Mdle. Cerito, who belongs to "t'other house." Finally, he speaks of the Adelphi, "where Mathews gave his inimitable 'At Homes,' " forgetting that these entertainments were originally given at the old Lyceum, and that the greater number were enacted on that stage. Mr. Measom probably took for his authority a passage in Mr. Cunningham's 'Handbook of London,' first edition, which every old play-goer knew to be incorrect. With this we leave a volume that might have been a useful one, and which consists of 200 pages of description, and as many of advertisements—*Voyez, Messieurs, c'est tout à choisir!*

Victoria and the Australian Gold Mines in 1857. With Notes on the Overland Route from Australia, via Suez. By Wm. Westgarth. With Maps. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

Mr. Westgarth has produced a reliable, readable book, well stocked with information and pleasantly interspersed with incidents of travel and views of colonial life. He writes with a plan before him, and is careful to preserve the order of his topics,—the aborigines, the settlers, progress, commerce, squatting, and mining each furnishing the materials of an entertaining chapter. In some respects we prefer Mr. Westgarth's method to that of Mr. Howitt. He has not a pen so facile, but neither has he an imagination so apt to wander, and though he might not so successfully entrap a novelist, he may communicate more practical explanations to the intending emigrant. Moreover, he did not go to Australia simply to see and describe it; he is himself, in some sort, an Australian; he has been an "honourable member" in the Parliament of Victoria; the growth of Melbourne has been watched by him, at intervals, for upwards of sixteen years; he is no outsider, no mother-country child with a determination to take notes; and if he be not graphic he is at least clear, sensible, and suggestive. The fault of his volume is, that it overflows with disquisition; the matter is loosely combined; Mr. Westgarth has perpetually something to say, and says it at large. We have to tolerate his rhetorical diffusion; but if we are patient, our virtue does not go unrewarded.

The colony of Victoria contains about four hundred thousand inhabitants, distributable, by thirds, into the sea-port, the mining, and the interior towns, and pastoral populations. There are not less than thirty thousand Chinese, who have brought with them no more than four or five women, but who occasionally marry European girls. They publish a newspaper in their own language, and have reared a grand Joss House upon Emerald Hill, where their ceremonial rites are carried on with orthodox elaboration.—

"On theological subjects I may mention that the solar eclipse of last year excited great attention amongst this people, probably in connexion with some religious notions. A general stir was visible in their encampments, and an incessant jingling of pots and pans was kept up, as was understood, with the object of frightening away the evil spirits that had bewitched the two luminaries."

The missionaries have been among the Victorian Chinese, but have met with comparatively little success. It is difficult to induce John Chinaman, even when not a Buddhist or a bigotted Confucian, to attend the Church service on Sunday. For six days he has been digging and washing, lighting with A'Hin or A'Chin, or bartering the ore of Ballarat for minted money, realizing about two pennyweights of gold, or 7*s.* 6*d.* a day. On Sunday, therefore, he has to shave his head, comb his tail, and make other personal arrangements which occupy him until noon; then, perhaps, he nurses awhile the semi-Irish, semi-Tartar little beauty with hair like Coxinga's and eyes like Ellen's or Eveleen's, whose young mother from Killarney stands with glistening countenance at the door. Consequently, the gentleman who has imported into Australia the galloping kakkerlacs of Hou-pé, who formerly saved the croppings of his beard and the cuttings of his nails to enrich his garden plot, but who now "surfaces" abandoned diggings for little gleanings of gold, is not much disposed to hear the Rev. Mr. Young or his assistant the convert from the long street of Han Yang:—

"The complaint of the miners to the commission just alluded to was, that the Chinamen

swarmed about them like devouring locusts. Never discovering anything for themselves, never exerting themselves even to dig the holes requisite for reaching the gold deposits, or making the excavations for retaining water, they follow on the heels of others, rewashing and gleaming up everything; thus cutting off all after-resources from miners who have discovered 'leads,' and who, after roughly exhausting them, cannot fall back upon a rewash, because a horde of Tartars has already accomplished that duty."

Mr. Westgarth speculates in this fashion.—

"Are these masses of Chinamen to be privileged like other colonists, or are they to remain amongst us an inferior race—inferior alike in their collective constitution and in their political negotiations? Either alternative has a dark aspect. Somewhat of an American difficulty looms upon our future; for although a Chinaman has more intelligence than a Negro, his people are perhaps more obstinately anti-European. Like an indigestible mass in the system of the colony, they will turn up to-morrow, and an age hence, just as they appear to-day. The distinguishing feature of a free and enlightened society is the condition of its operative masses, whose vigour of body and originality of mind are ever rising into the superior grades to maintain the onward progress. This social aspect, which so well characterizes our good Old England, the Northern States of America, and, more than any other, a thoroughly British colony, is materially altered by the large infusion of the Chinese. We cannot exactly predict what aspect time will give to the question; but, whatever form it may hereafter take, I regard our Chinese visitation as threatening our moral and intellectual greatness, and the darkest spot that has yet come upon the colonial horizon."

No gold-field of any lasting attraction has been found nearer to Melbourne than seventy-five or eighty miles. It would appear that the outer zone of Australia is not richly auriferous; but the theory has been scarcely sufficiently tested. One-fifth of the superficies of the colony of Victoria, Mr. Westgarth remarks, yields gold, and yet—

"Proverbially the most precarious and the least comfortable, the most followed after, and yet the least remunerated, is the vocation of gold-mining. The 10,000 soiled and sweating figures that are scattered along this valley, that have toiled all the long day, and are, perhaps, with the setting sun, preparing their candles and lanterns to descend to their 'sinkings' and 'drivings' for the prolonged labours of the night; these people have, in general, very inadequate earnings for such protracted toils. These little tents or turf-built cots upon the rise of the valley contain their wives and families. There is little of domestic enjoyment, but there is ever a fund of inspiring hope. Nineteen adjacent parties have, for long weeks, been digging and washing out reluctant pennyweights of the precious metal, that divided to each a narrow and hardly-earned maintenance; but a five-hundred-pound nugget has just withstood the pick of the twentieth party, and their nineteen neighbours are inspired with as much alacrity as if nineteen others had fallen into each of their own hands."

A change is coming over the population at the mines. The rushing crowds, grasping at every glittering spot, are disappearing; gold-digging is becoming a fixed and methodical vocation; towns are springing up and agriculture is carried on near the washings; steam-engines are employed to pump the pits. The results, notwithstanding, are in most cases astonishingly meagre in comparison with the vast treasures supposed to be buried in the soil. Scattered through the superficial drifts of an area not exceeding a square mile, says Mr. Westgarth, there are at least ten, probably one hundred, millions sterling of pure gold, held together in a merely mechanical admixture. And yet, with all the unrivalled machinery of the civilized world, nothing has yet been imported into this field which will accomplish

more than the earning upon the average of a bare livelihood for the miner. Large areas of the colony, he proceeds to suggest, are traversed by quartz reefs, above and below the surface, which actual trial has shown to contain gold in proportions ascending to thirty ounces per ton "throughout the mass, and to more than double that proportion in particular veins." Yet the engines in use may crush daily some two or three tons, "and are supposed to have done their duty if they have extricated one half of the total gold." It must be an ingenious and a powerful mechanism that will extort the full tribute of the earth.

The social aspects of the mining fields were sketched by Mr. Westgarth in the course of a tour to the Ballarat, Creswick, Alexander, Castlemaine, and Bendigo diggings. He arrived at Ballarat on Sunday afternoon.—

"The quietness of the diggings on a Sunday is striking. There seems a general agreement to cease from the usual occupation, consequently it is extremely rare to find any party engaged in actual mining on that day. But it may be easily understood that, situated as the miners are, they have few resources to fall back upon for employment of mind or body during that period of rest. Many thousands are brought together, separated at once from the comforts and restraining influences of a home and family, and pursuing a vocation of a speculative and irregular character. It is not surprising that the clergymen should complain of a thin attendance and an uncertain flock. We observed some games in process, and a crowd looking on; many were chopping wood or performing little duties about their tents. The pipe and cigar seemed a great resource. Most were well dressed, and many women and children were walking about or sitting at the entrances of tents. Bills were posted on the gum-trees along the road, intimating that the clergyman of some particular sect would preach that day, and giving the hour and place."

Almost every gold-field has its newspaper, with "leaders" written in the "greased lighting" style, and paragraphs of concentrated thunder directed against governments and systems.

Mr. Westgarth's work contains a lucid and systematic view of the moral and material condition of the most important colony in Australia.

Biographies of Distinguished Scientific Men.
By François Arago. Translated by Admiral Smyth, Rev. Baden Powell, and Robert Grant, Esq. (Longman & Co.)

OF M. Arago we have lately spoken [*Athen.* No. 1471], and, as our readers know, we have been obliged to qualify the terms in which he was praised during life and immediately after death. We said that a great part of his fame was not of the kind which lasts; and that the reputation of a modern classic goes through its phases rapidly. The progress of opinion has confirmed our views: twenty months ago we were contending against an illusion which has nearly disappeared. We now feel that—with all his merits as an expositor, all his really varied but not profound knowledge, all the useful activity by which he kept up his name, and all the impulsive nationality which pushed him into controversies beyond his depth,—we may take it for granted that he is not to be rated as a first-class biographer, nor received as an overpowering authority. We have accordingly made up our minds not to discuss Bailly, Laplace, Fourier, Carnot, Malus, Fresnel, Young, Watt, but only to draw a few illustrations of the biographer, from the showy and interesting pictures which he has placed before us.

To the translators we have nothing to object. They have occasionally hinted corrections of

their author in short notes, which they might have made more numerous. The translation is usually very good; but here and there a slip occurs,—unless indeed Arago had very peculiar notions. For example, speaking of Bailly's celebrated address to Louis the Eighteenth, at the gates of Paris, which was afterwards much criticized, it is said, that more than a year passed before any courtier, "though furnished like a microscope with all the monarchical susceptibilities," began to find fault. We had no idea that microscopes were furnished with such apparatus.

Some things in this volume are well known. The autobiography of Arago himself has been separately printed. The life of Young, and points of Fresnel, have been duly handled by the Dean of Ely: that of Watt has been fully brought into controversy.

We shall first bring forward Arago's representation of the difficulties of an astronomer:—

"A favourable wind arises and dissipates the vapours in the very direction where some important phenomenon will manifest itself, and is to last only a few seconds. The astronomer, exposed to all the transitions of weather (it is one of the conditions of accuracy), the body painfully bent, directs the telescope of a great graduated circle in haste upon the star that he impatiently awaits. His lines for measuring are a spider's threads. If in looking he makes a mistake of half the thickness of one of these threads, the observation is good for nothing; judge what his uneasiness must be: at the critical moment, a puff of wind occasioning a vibration in the artificial light adapted to his telescope, the threads become almost invisible; the star itself, whose rays reach the eye through atmospheric strata of various density, temperature, and refrangibility, will appear to oscillate so much as to render the true position of it almost unassignable; at the very moment when extremely good definition of the object becomes indispensable to insure correctness of measures, all becomes confused, either because the eye-piece gets steamed with vapour, or that the vicinity of the very cold metal occasions an abundant secretion of tears in the eye applied to the telescope: the poor observer is then exposed to the alternative of abandoning to some other more fortunate person than himself, the ascertaining a phenomenon that will not recur during his lifetime, or introducing into the science results of problematical correctness. Finally, to complete the observation, he must read off the microscopical divisions of the graduated circle, and for what opticians call *indolent vision* (the only sort that the ancients ever required) must substitute *strained vision*, which in a few years brings on blindness."

All this is stuff, at which astronomers will laugh. Do our readers remember the book called 'The Miseries of Human Life'? Well then, if all those miseries were happening to him in ticketed order, one down and another come on, without a single moment of pleasantness or peace, he might call himself one of Arago's astronomers. The translators add the following note:—

"This long list of supposed difficulties in making an exact observation is hardly worthy of a zealous astronomer. Our author shows no enthusiasm for his subject here, and ends by ascribing the whole jeremiad to Lacaille, a man of very great practical perseverance. It is to be regretted that Arago never refers to observations of his own, but constantly quotes from others, nor does he always select the best."

We believe that if Arago had wished to refer to observations of his own, he must have first made them.

We do not like a biographer who tells the story of others in the wrong way, as in the following example:—

"Instead of some unmeaning jokes, why did he not show us, for example, in a neighbouring country, two celebrated physicians, Mead and Woodward, deciding, sword in hand, the quarrel that had

arisen between them as to the purgative treatment of a patient? We should then have heard Woodward, pierced through and through, rolling on the ground, and drenched in blood, say to his adversary with an exhausted voice: "The blow was harsh, but yet I prefer it to your medicine!"

Was ever anything so spoiled! Mead met Woodward in the court of the College of Physicians, and struck him. Both drew; Woodward stumbled, and would not ask his life, according to the form for such case made and provided. Other persons arrived and interfered; and Mead complained of Woodward's irregularity. "No, Sir," said Woodward, "if you had been to give me medicine, I might have asked my life."

Yet Arago is an excellent narrator. Though the extract be long, we shall give his account of a man whose early career has never, we believe, been so distinctly set forth. That man was Marat, of infamous memory.—

"Several years before our first revolution, a native of Neuchâtel quitted his mountains, traversed the Jura, and lighted upon Paris. Without means, without any recognised talent, without eminence of any sort, repulsive in appearance, of a more than negligent deportment, it seemed unlikely that he should hope, or even dream, of success; but the young traveller had been told to have full confidence, although a celebrated academicien had not yet given that singular definition of our country, 'France is the home of foreigners.' At all events, the definition was not erroneous in this instance, for soon after his arrival, the Neuchâtelais was appointed physician to the household of one of the princes of the royal family, and formed strict intimacies with the greater part of the powerful people about the court. This stranger thirsted for literary glory. Amongst his early productions, a medico-philosophical work figured in three volumes, relative to the reciprocal influences of the mind and the body. The author thought he had produced a *chef-d'œuvre*; even Voltaire was not thought to be above analyzing it suitably; let us hasten to say that the illustrious old man, yielding to the pressing solicitations of the Duke de Praslin, one of the most active patrons of the Swiss doctor, promised to study the work and give his opinion of it. The author was at the *acmé* of his wishes. After having pompously announced that the seat of the soul is in the *meninges* (cerebral membrane), could there be anything to fear from the liberal thinker of Ferney? He had only forgotten that the patriarch was above all a man of good taste, and that the book on the body and soul offended all the proprieties of life. Voltaire's article appeared. He began with this severe and just lesson:—'We should not be prodigal of contempt towards others, and of esteem for ourselves, to such a degree as will be revolting to our readers.' The end was still more overwhelming. 'We see harlequin everywhere cutting capers to amuse the pit.' Harlequin had received a sufficient dose. Not having succeeded in literature, he threw himself upon the sciences. On betaking himself to this new career, the doctor of Neuchâtel attacked Newton. But unluckily his criticisms were directed precisely to those points wherein optics may vie in evidence with geometry itself. This time the patron was M. de Maillebois, and the tribunal the Academy of Sciences. The Academy pronounced its judgment gravely, without inflicting a word of ridicule; for example, it did not speak of harlequin; but it did not therefore remain the less established that the pretended experiments, intended, it was said, to upset Newton's, on the unequal refrangibility of variously coloured rays, and the explanation of the rainbow, &c., had absolutely no scientific value. Still the author would not allow himself to have been beaten. He even conceived the possibility of retaliation; and, availing himself of his intimacy with the Duke de Villeroi, governor of the second city in the kingdom, he got the Academy of Lyons to propose for competition all the questions in optics, which for several years past had been the subjects of its disquisitions; he even furnished the amount of the prize out of his own pocket, under an

assumed name. The prize so longed for, and so singularly proposed, was not obtained, however, by the Duke de Villeroi's candidate, but by the astronomer Flaugergues. From that instant, the pseudo-physicist became the bitter enemy of the scientific bodies of the whole universe, of whoever bore the title of an academicien. Putting aside all shame, he no longer made himself known in the field of natural philosophy, merely by imaginary experiments, or by juggleries; he had recourse to contemptible practices, with the object of throwing doubt upon the clearest and best proved principles of science: for example, the metallic needles discovered by the academicien Charles, and which the foreign doctor had adroitly concealed in a cake of resin, in order to contradict the common opinion of the electric non-conductibility of that substance.

* * The revolution of '89 just occurred in time to relieve the abortive author, physiologist, and physicist from the intolerable position into which he had been thrown by his inability and his quackery. As soon as the revolution had assumed a decided movement, great surprise was occasioned by the sudden transformations excited in the inferior walks of the political world. Marat was one of the most striking examples of these hasty changes of principles. The Neuchâtel physician had shown himself a violent adversary to those opinions that occasioned the convocation of the assembly of Notables, and the national commotion in '89. At that time democratic institutions had not a more bitter or more violent censor. Marat liked it to be believed that in quitting France for England, he fled especially from the spectacle of social renovation which was odious to him. Yet a month after the taking of the Bastille, he returned to Paris, established a journal, and from its very beginning left far behind him even those who, in the hope of making themselves remarkable, thought they must push exaggeration to its very farthest limits."

Of Arago's undue nationalism there are abundant instances. To make Lagrange a Frenchman (who was indeed of ancestry partially French), he affirms that he never wrote except in French. Lagrange was an Italian, of French extraction, born at Turin; his mother-tongue was Italian, and his first work was published in Italian. Arago has found a new name for Lagrange; he calls him Lagrange-Tournier; we have looked at various writers who try to make Lagrange a Frenchman, but not one of them mentions this other name. He gives the invention of the steam-engine to Papin, who imagined the formation of a vacuum by cooling the steam,—a great idea, but who never made any machine at all. He heated the steam, and when he wanted it to cool, he took away the fire. Nevertheless, Arago speaks about the machine which Papin did not make as follows: and no single sentence in his book is a better specimen of the lengths which he can go when his theory requires it.—

"The machine in which our countryman was the first to combine the elastic force of steam with the property possessed by this vapour of annihilating itself by cooling, he never made on a large scale. His experiments were always made with simple models. The water intended to generate the steam was not even contained in a separate vessel; enclosed in the cylinder, it rested on the metal plate that closed the orifice at the bottom. It was this plate that Papin heated directly, to transform the water into steam; it was from the same plate that he took away the fire when he wished for condensation to be effected. Such a proceeding, barely allowable in an experiment intended to verify the correctness of a principle, would evidently be still less admissible if the piston were required to move with some celerity. Papin, whilst saying that success might be attained 'by various constructions easy to imagine,' does not indicate any of them. He leaves to his successors both the merit of applying his fruitful idea, and that of inventing the details, which alone could ensure the success of the machine."

The reader will find these Biographies

pleasant, instructive on many points, and chatty; and the translators' notes will to some extent prevent him from being misled by the text. As the opinions of a contemporary Frenchman on the parts played by such men as Bailly and Carnot in the great Revolution, they will have an abiding interest; but even these will be read with reference to their author,—more to know what an Arago would think, than to help the reader to form his own view. But small credit is due to the author as a scientific historian. He studies effects: thus we have three astronomical epochs,—that of Copernicus, of Kepler, and of Newton. Now Copernicus did not, as Arago says he did, upset the received theories in 1543; he then published the work which was to produce such a result about a century after. Kepler's great work on the planet Mars was published in 1609, before the real battle of the earth's motion had fairly commenced: so that Copernicus and Kepler are in the field together. Arago can see nothing in Weidler's 'History of Astronomy' except a list of names and books,—which shows that he could talk upon very little inspection. He imagined that Newton had done nothing but conjecture in the matter of the precession of the equinoxes, which shows that he knew little enough of the Principia. His account of Carnot's mathematical works shows that he knew next to nothing about them. In reference to the work on the metaphysics of the infinitesimal calculus, he gives us flourishes about Cavalieri and others which are nothing to the purpose through three big pages. But when he comes to the work itself, all he tells us is that Carnot teaches how we arrive at exact results "by means of certain compensations," being just a little less than any one would learn from the preface. He makes bold to assert that the writers of certain excellent elementary treatises have not sufficiently consulted this work: we are bold enough to say the same of certain biographers. In conclusion, we have before us the work of a man who knew some of the things he wrote about, but who was so handy and specious at things which he knew less of, that the only reader who is quite safe in his hands is the one who need not be his reader at all.

City Poems. By Alexander Smith. (Cambridge, Macmillan & Co.)

A strange poetical propaganda came in a few years ago, with Apollodorus or Somebody Conqueror. The young gentlemen who followed his banner appeared to be by birth flighty, by education ungrammatical, by transmutation poets. They were all more or less subject to ethereal prospects, opinions, and starry influences. They saw strange visions and dreamt impossible similitudes. In whatever quarter of the world, or season of the year, they happened to light, they were always to be found in conjunction with the moon, and, as a matter of course, continually frothing about the sea, if not putting out the sun and making the earth dark with their own excessive brightness. Their partiality for daisies and skylarks implied an unfamiliarity with the localities and the seasons when those very pretty common-places of earth concur. Except with a daisy-rake, it was impossible to turn up so many shrivelled specimens of "the wee crimson-tipped flower" or to net so many larks out of place as the reader might catch without much trouble in any page of their poetry. Neither to lark nor to daisy was there generally such epithet or thought attached as justified the introduction. Among these young gentlemen Mr. Alexander Smith held rank as chief. His shield

was bright, his plumage gay, his step assured. He announced himself a hero, and the busy world, that takes so much on trust, smiled on his burnished arms and dancing feathers. But time gave rise to doubts,—doubts whether the *preux chevalier* had forged the shining armour for himself or merely picked it up by the wayside—whether he were the true duke or only a comedian in a mask and cloak.

Our readers will remember that early this year a writer in the *Athenæum* drew attention to the system of composition adopted by the Apollodorus poets, as particularly exemplified in the verses of Mr. A. Smith. He showed by many examples that the easy system was, to take an image, an idea, or a passage from an acknowledged writer, change the order, or the passion, or the name, and then compose it into a new work. We venture to reproduce one of the examples given. Cyril Tourneur had written in his 'Atheist's Tragedy':—

The weeping sea, like one
Whose milder temper doth lament the death
Of him whom in his rage he slew, runs up
The shore, embraces him, kisses his cheek,
Goes back again and forces up the sand
To bury him.

Out of this passage the reader sees how easy it must be to get the following lines, ostensibly by Mr. Smith:—

The bridegroom sea
Is toying with the shore, his wedded bride,
And in the fulness of his marriage joy
He decorates her tawny brow with shells,
Retires a space to see how fair she looks,
Then proud runs up to kiss her.

—Take away Tourneur's property from these lines—that is, the image, thought, action, word, and music—and what remains?

But everybody in our day has not read Cyril Tourneur, and those who did not know the original thought Mr. Smith's simile very fine, and even staked his claim as a poet on its beauty. The same principle of poetical compilation, we are very sorry to report, marks throughout the 'City Poems.' Even a rapid reading shows us this defect. Everywhere we find the mutilated property of other bards, strewn about like wrecks of noble vessels thrown upon a wild Scotch coast.

Mr. Wordsworth saw the shadow of a daisy, and Mr. Alexander Smith, too, sees it after him.

The daisy, by the shadow that it casts,
Protects the lingering dew-drop from the sun.
Wordsworth.
The dear old place is now before my eyes,
Yes, to the daisy's shadow on the stone.
Smith, p. 91.

If Mr. Tennyson is partial to a pint of port, Mr. Smith imagines the effect of the same measure and liquid in poetry. Mr. Tennyson has a curlew, an empty house, and a moorland: 'Tis the place, and all around it, as of old, the curlews call dreary gleams about the moorland flying over Locksley Hall. Mr. Smith (p. 11) thus transfers the landscape.—

The empty house was left to whistling winds,
In which the curlew sailed with wavering cry,
And flying sunny gleams.
Six paces on the moor.

Mr. Tennyson compares the sunbeam on Olivia's lips to a butterfly:—

A second hovered round her lips
Like a golden butterfly.—'Talking Oak.'

Apud Smith (p. 24):—

A half-smile hovering round her happy lips
Like a bright butterfly.

Here are two landscapes presented in similar forms and colours. Tennyson ('Gardener's Daughter') thus:—

Washed by a slow, broad stream
That stirred with languid pulses of the oar,
Waves all its lily lilies.

Mr. Smith (p. 88):—

—a stream
. . . slides lazy through the milky meads,
And once a week the sleepy slow-trailed barge
Rocks the broad water-lilies on its marge.

Wordsworth asserts the function of poetry to

be to "apparel with celestial light," or glorify, "the common things of earth." Mr. Smith thus conveys the idea:—

To put a something of celestial light
Round the familiar face of every day.

The hero of the 'Excursion' is thus pictured by Wordsworth:—

What joy was his when from the naked mountain top
He saw the sun rise up and bathe the world with light.

Mr. Smith (p. 118) thus adapts his figure:—

What joy, when o'er the huddled chimney-tops
Rose the great yellow moon!

Byron enumerates the influences that affect the heart:—

It may be a tone,
A flower, a leaf.

Mr. Smith (p. 22) thus follows him:—

That at a passing tone,
The noiseless falling of an autumn leaf,
It trembled into tears.

One of the never-to-be-forgotten lines of Philip Sydney is:—

A chamber deaf to noise and blind to light,
A rosy garland.

Mr. Smith copies and corrupts one of the loveliest fancies in our national poetry (p. 114):

Chamber of delight,
Deaf to all noise, sweet as a rose's heart.

This touch of the spring in Mr. Smith's 'A Boy's Poem':—

Bliss
Crept through my veins like that which stirs a tree
From knotted root up to its slenderest spray
Touched by the hand of Spring. (P. 179.)

in Tennyson's original stands thus:—

And even into mine inmost ring
A pleasure I discerned,
Like those blind motions of the spring
That show the year is turned.—'Talking Oak'

The lines—

Shapes
That haunt him with their beauty. (P. 34.)
A haunting face
Disturbed me with its beauty. (P. 179.)
Her bliss disturbed her. (P. 24.)

combine and assuredly do not improve passages from Wordsworth's 'Tintern Abbey':—

The cataract haunted me like a passion,
A sense sublime
Disturbs me with the joy of elevated thoughts.

Wordsworth's

Consecration and the poet's dream,

Mr. Smith degrades into

Familiar things enough to you and me,
Take a strange glory from the poet's mind. (P. 34.)

The 'Ode on Immortality' and 'Tintern Abbey' may be reconstructed almost entirely by any one who has a little comparative industry and will pick the bits out of Mr. Smith's museum.

Here are two considerable, though mutilated, fragments:—

I've suffered much,
And known the deepest sorrow man can know.
That pain has fled upon the troubled years:
Although the world is darker than before,
There is a pathos round the daisy's head:
The common sunshine in the common fields,
The rumel by the road, the clouds that grow
Out of the blue abysses of the air,
Do not as in my earlier days, oppress
Me with their beauty.

And

You knew me when my fond and ignorant youth
Was an unwind chamber of delight,
Deaf to all noise, sweet as a rose's heart:
A sudden earthquake rent it to the base,
And through the rifts of ruin sternly gleamed
An apparition of grey windy crag,
Black leagues of forest roaring like a sea,
And far lands dim with rain. There was my world
And place for evermore. When forth I went
I took my gods with me, and set them up
Within my foreign home. What love I had,
What admiration and keen sense of joy,
Unspent in verse, has been to me a stream
Feeding the roots of being; living sap
That dwelt within the myriad boughs of life,
And kept the leaves of feeling fresh and green.
Instead of sounding in the heads of fools,
Like wind within a ruin, it became
A pious benediction and a smile
On all the goings on of human life;
An incommunicable joy in day,
In lone waste places, and the light of stars.

For the originals of these verses—saving the

patches obviously borrowed from Sydney, Coleridge, and Byron—read the lines in 'Tintern Abbey,' beginning

For I am
Not as in the hour of thoughtless youth,
But feeling oftentimes
The still, sad music of humanity,
Together with the passage in the Ode—
It is not now
As it hath been before;
Go where I may,
By night or day,
The things I once have seen
I now can see no more.
The rainbow comes and goes,
And lovely is the rose;
The sunshine is a glorious birth;
Yet still I know
When I go
That there hath passed a beauty from the earth.

We put together a string of passages with the original authorities:—

Could tell, Sir, if he would—yet never dared. (P. 9.)
Imitated from 'Macbeth.'

Sleep in one room and at one table sit. (P. 21.)
Adapted from 'King John.'

The rain which I had heard so often weep
Alone, within the middle of the night,
Like a poor, beaten, and despoiled child
That has been thrust forth from his father's door. (P. 118.)
Copied from Coleridge, almost word for word.

A lofty scorn I dared to shed
On human passions, hopes, and jars,
I—standing on the countess dead,
And pitted by the countless stars. (P. 190.)
Here is the original in Mrs. Browning's:—

O man, thy hate with stars overhead,
They love with graves below.

Here is reproduced a well-remembered refrain from Mr. Tennyson's 'Princess':—

Filled with the light of suns that are no more. (P. 112.)
But mock me with the days that are no more. (P. 113.)

Let these 'City Poems' be opened at any page whatever, and there will be found glorious fragments of verse, which Mr. Smith has read somewhere, and has forgotten that others have read too—patches of seamless Milton, Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Shelley, Keats, Coleridge, the two Brownings, so turned, and padded, and tagged to breadths of home-spun inanity, that we scarcely know whether to be amazed at the impudence or to pity the poverty which makes such an attempt to cover its own nakedness.

The following beauties and elegances are Mr. Smith's own:—

The belled landlord with his purple head,
Like a red cabbage on December morn
Crusted with snow.

He seemed a mighty angel sent from God
Standing before us—drunk.

I often sat

At those wild drinking bouts, which seemed divine
In a great flash of wit and rote next morn,
Thrust like the parched Sahara, and each ear
Loud as a cotton mill.

O, rare to hear this Cotton-bag, with soul
Scarce saucer-deep, rate Horton for his faults!
True, as the moonson breathing day and night
To China and the Isles.

Here, black-eyed Richard ruins red-checked Moll,
Indifferent as a lord to her despair.

Within the lake I see old Holde's cows
Stand in their shadows in a tranquil drowse.

Men who at morning stood as prosperous
As bearded autumn, were, ere sunset, poor
As a worn scarecrow fluttering dingy rags
Within the feeble wind.

Round me standing in a marsh of doubt,
She danced like elfin fire.

A flood of pale green foam, that hissed and *fretted*.

Like clouds of cherubs tiny cloudlets slept
In soft and tender rose.

Discourse burst from its melancholy weeds,
As brilliant as a spangled dancing-girl.

In contrast to the 'Life Drama,' we are bound to say that Mr. Smith's imagination in these 'City Poems' appears in very reduced circumstances, and to soar rather under the light of dips than the radiance of stars. Here are a few effects of candlelight:—

She like a candle lit her father's hearth.

The Lady Florence at the county ball,
Quenching the beauties as the lightning dimes
The candles in a room.

Joy stood like candles in her mother's eyes.

For charwomen—in England far from attractive society—Mr. Smith exhibits a strange preference. These, oyster-men and belled landlords have supplanted moon-eyed panthers and cubs of Ind in his fancy. "The mighty pathos of the empty streets" is well portrayed throughout the poems. We give one of the best lyrics entire; and even in this the reader will catch the music of other strings than those of Mr. Smith.—

On the Sabbath-day,
Through the churchyard old and grey,
Over the crisp and yellow leaves, I held my rustling way;
And amid the words of mercy, falling on my soul like
balm,
'Mid the gorgeous storms of music—in the mellow organ-
calms,
'Mid the upward streaming prayers, and the rich and
solemn psalms,
I stood careless, Barbara.

My heart was elsewhere
While the organ shook the air,
And the priest, with outspread hands, blessed the people
with a prayer;
But, when rising to go homeward, with a mild and saint-
like shine
Gleamed a face of airy beauty with its heavenly eyes on
mine—

Gleamed and vanished in a moment—O that face was
surely thine
Out of heaven, Barbara!

O pallid, pallid face!
O earnest eyes of grace!
When last I saw thee, dearest, it was in another place.
You came running forth to meet me with my love-gift on
your wrist:

The flutter of a long white dress, then all was lost in mist—
A purple stain of agony was on the mouth I kissed.
That wild morning, Barbara.

I searched, in my despair,
Sunny noon and midnight air;
I could not drive away the thought that you were lingering
there.

O many and many a winter night I sat when you were gone,
My worn face buried in my hands, beside the fire alone—
Within the dripping churchyard, the rain plashing on your
stone,
You were sleeping, Barbara.

'Mong angels, do you think
Of the precious golden link
I clasped around your happy arm while sitting by your
brink?
Or when that night of gliding dance, of laughter and
guitars,
Was emptied of its music, and we watched, through
littled hours,
The silent midnight heaven creeping o'er us with its stars,
Till the day broke, Barbara?

In the years I've changed:
Wild and far my heart hath ranged,
And many sins and errors now have been on me avenged;
But to you I have been faithful, whatsoever good I lacked;
I loved you, and above my life still hangs that love intact—
Your love the trembling rainbow, I the reckless cataract—
Still I love you, Barbara.

Yet, love, I am unblest;
With many doubts oppress,
I wander like a desert wind, without a place of rest.
Could I but win you for an hour from off that starry shore,
The hunger of my soul were stilled, for Death hath told
you more
Than the melancholy world doth know; things deeper than
all lore

You could teach me, Barbara.
In vain, in vain, in vain,
You will never come again.
There droops upon the dreary hills a mournful fringe of
rain;
The gloaming closes slowly round, loud winds are in the
tree,
Round selfish shores for ever moans the hurt and wounded
sea,
There is no rest upon the earth, peace is with Death and
thee,
Barbara!

And a few curious examples of rhyming.—

On bank and brake how thick they grow,
The self-same clumps, the self-same dyes,
The primroses of long ago—
But ah! the altered eyes!
I dream they are the very flowers,
Warm with the sun, wet with the showers,
Which, years ago, I used to pull
Returning from the murmuring school.

This appears suitable for the 14th of
February.—

When first I saw your tender face,
Saw you, loved you from afar,
My soul was like forlornest space
Made sudden happy by a star.

And here an example of music:—

The sheep they leap in golden parks;
My blood is bliss, my heart is pleasure;
Then let my song flow like a lark's
Above his nested treasure.

This is difficult to repeat fast:—

Wat robbed a ruffled stranger of a kiss.

The sensitiveness of the hero's aural nerve is
thus represented:—

He heard a spire start in its sleep.

Three of the six poems in this volume are
not now new. The opening poem, 'Horton,' we
read some time ago in the newspapers. 'The
Night before the Wedding' and 'The Change'
appeared in the *National Magazine* not long
ago. The hero of 'Horton' is evidently the
author, who sits in an office between two clerks:
—one is "a moat of dullness," the other, "all
flame and air." The effect of their association is
alternately conveyed in the poem.

In this hasty reading we have sufficiently
seen that Mr. Smith is not one of Nature's
poets—he possesses neither "the vision nor the
faculty divine"; and that he has not improved
in the principle or the practice of his very sin-
gular system of composition.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Bishop Blomfield and his Times: an Historical Sketch. By the Rev. George Edward Biber, LL.D. Reprinted from the *Churchman's Magazine*. (Harrison.)—The last words of the title-page mark that the book before us would have been more correctly described had "ecclesiastical"—not "historical"—been the adjective. There should be, there *must* be, "ecclesiastical" lives of the late Bishop of London, who held his see during one of those times of crisis and convulsion in the Church, which render it impossible for the Metropolitan Primate to remain silent without somnolency, or neutral without the suspicion of lukewarmness. The episcopal life of Charles James Blomfield *must* be a book more or less controversial, though it need not have been executed with so many tainting spots of *odium theologium*, as we find on Dr. Biber's pages. The "historical" life, so far as we understand the word, would have been of more general—might have been of more genial—interest. It might have contained fewer flings against Bishop Bathurst's defence of his rubber—less ingenious "fencings" in regard to the difficult questions stirred up by clergy and churchwardens of St. Paul and St. Barnabas—and more notices of the vigorous, active, ambitious man, and ripe, refined scholar, whose accomplishments were no less remarkable than was his dogmatic ingenuity, and who has left his mark in the book of Letters as well as in the book of the Anglican Church. The above remarks will explain why we do not deal with this book more in detail. As an "apology," or an "eulogy," of a churchman, whose proceedings have been largely canvassed and questioned, addressed to a particular sect of religionists (be that sect larger or less, by law established or by private judgment maintained), the "Sketch" must seek for analysis, approval, or measured protest, elsewhere than in the columns of the *Athenæum*.

Married or Single? By Miss Sedgwick. (Knight & Son.)—Folks have found in the trunk-linings of the past another Walter Scott—a second Lord Byron—both, of course, though authors, comparatively mute and inglorious. Mrs. Hemans used to be distressed by a spurious F. H. who wrote in the *Annals*. There are two Thomas Carlyles. But we know not that a more cruel coincidence has ever befallen an author than that which the respected writer of 'Hope Leslie,' 'Redwood,' and 'The Linwoods,' has here to abide. That Miss Sedgwick, and (her idle, prying, and mistaken book on England forgiven) our Miss Sedgwick, has right to complain of this Miss Sedgwick, who has committed the flagrant novel before us. We turned to it, attracted by the name. In place of "the tune of Imogen," we find nothing more refined or real than the song, half psalm half slang, of 'Sally in our Alley.' The women of America have been for some time trying their best to make men of the world avoid their confessions in print; and we have not seen a success much more complete than this, though our columns have borne testimony to the rapid increase of the blight among the

moral novelists of the new country. Who is married, and who remains single, we shall not disclose. There is a lovely lady, in a gown looped up with lilies of the valley, but we do not placard her for the heroine. There is a naughty gentleman, who bestows bracelets on an unhappy married female, which gaucers are sent back by the saved wife (stricken to penitence by her child's death), in order that the bad bracelet-giver may be unmasked, when he is about to sign settlements previous to marriage with a splendid girl;—but far be it from us to say that he is the villain of the book. There is "a non-committal mother,"—there is a step-mother, who "rasps" people's "nerves,"—there is a *polka*, painted in colours very nearly as lucid as would befit *Eve's* apple,—there is a suffering woman, who resembles one of our "precious perpetuals." But what is there *not* in this novel?—Simply not a spark, not a syllable, not a sentiment, such as remind us of the right Miss Sedgwick, whom English readers have long ago learnt to love.

Plan for simplifying and improving the Measures, Weights, and Money of this Country, without materially altering the present Standards. By Sir C. W. Pasley. (Dalton.)—This is a paper read before the British Association in 1856. Sir C. Pasley was an agitator for the change of coinage now known as the *pound-and-mil* scheme, as long ago as 1834: and of this scheme he is now among the foremost promoters. In measures, he proposes to diminish the foot in the proportion of 10,127 to 10,000, and to make it consist of ten imperial inches of ten parts each: making a mile of 6,000 of his feet, or of 1,000 of his fathoms, to be the mean minute of a degree of the earth. Other measures are made to follow. In weight, he proposes to diminish the pound in the proportion of 108 to 100, making the pound the sixtieth part of his cubic foot of water. The time is hardly come for this discussion: the coinage question has possession of the field. When this is settled, if a decimal plan be carried, the battle of the weights and measures will begin: and this contest will be one to which that about the coinage will be a mere skirmish with blunt weapons. There is, as yet, no strong agreement between any number of inquirers as to what should be the measure of length or of weight.

Comments on the Preliminary Report, &c., of the Decimal Coinage Commission. By Theodore W. Rathbone. (Ridgway.)—One of the witnesses of whom we lately spoke here publishes his own evidence, his own answers to Lord Overstone's questions, with preliminary remarks, and a statement addressed to the Commissioners. Mr. Rathbone is, we think, the only very decided advocate of the penny scheme left; that is, both of its advantages and of its practicability. As we lately said, our interest in this part of the contest has cooled. The question is between remaining as we are, or adopting the pound-and-mil scheme: most certainly the present question is no other.

Reports of the Physico-Mathematical Section of the Imperial Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg.—[*Bulletins, &c.*] Vols. XII.—XV. (Leipzig, Voss.)—These volumes show that the sciences are in full activity in Euler's old haunt. But we cannot undertake details: an abridgment of one year's report of proceedings would be too much to find room for.

A Popular Introduction to Experimental Chemistry. (Elliott Brothers.)—This little treatise, which is published by chemical-apparatus manufacturers, is intended to aid the juvenile amateur in trying chemical experiments. As far as the mere experiments are concerned, all the manipulatory details are clearly described. We are, however, disposed to doubt if any advantage is to be gained by such an Introduction to Chemistry as the Messrs. Elliott have given us. They speak of its use "in entering on the study of Chemistry—a science founded entirely on experiment." They surely cannot suppose that any mental labour sufficient to be dignified by the name of *study* can be given to the chemical amusements for which they give directions.

Stones of the Valley. By the Rev. W. S. Symonds. (Bentley.)—This little book, which describes chiefly

the geology of the vale of Worcester, will be read with interest and instruction by those into whose hands it may chance to fall. It is one of those "sermons on stones" which cannot fail to do good. Succinctly, but clearly, the geological phenomena which present themselves within the limited area to which our author has devoted his attention are described. But it must not be supposed that the book treats merely of the geology of the author's home. It is a brief exposition of the science as it is at present understood—remarkable for the lucid explanations which it gives of many obscure points in paleontology, and for the honest and temperate manner in which the author expresses his convictions of the truths of a science to which he has been but a comparatively recent convert.

A Treatise on the Positive Collodion Process. By Thomas Sutton, B.A. (Bland & Long).—This treatise, from a good practical photographer, contains much matter which cannot fail to be useful to all persons interested in the production of pleasing positive-collodion pictures. There are a few pages devoted to the consideration of Photographic Portraiture, which are well worthy the attentive study of all who are engaged in this branch of the art.

The Dry Collodion Process. By Charles A. Long. (Bland & Long).—We have not merely examined the description given by Mr. Long of his Dry-Collodion Process, but we have witnessed the results obtained by following carefully his directions. It appears to us that, by it, a collodion plate may be prepared at home, wrapt in paper and packed in portmanteau; that we may journey to Rome or Venice, then place our plate in the camera-obscura, and allow it for a few minutes to receive the luminous image; remove it in a dark room; repack it and trouble ourselves no more about it until our return to England; when, in the room in which it was prepared, we may witness the magic process of development, and rejoice that we have without much labour secured a picture of the Coliseum or of the Bridge of Sighs.

Christianity the Logic of Creation is the title of a volume of letters by Mr. Henry James, the tendency of whose reasoning is exemplified by his ostentatious admiration of Swedenborg. With this large abstract essay we have a variety of others on points more practical. The new Divorce Bill furnishes matter for diversified speculations in Mr. John Keble's *Sequel to the Argument for immediately Repealing the Laws which treat the Nuptial Bond as Indissoluble: What will the Commons do with the Divorce Bill?* By a Wife and Mother; and *Christian Marriage Indissoluble*. A Sermon, by James G. Cavan. The Oaths Bill has elicited *The Admission of the Jews into Parliament truthfully considered*, by a violent writer, who styles himself "The Author of the phrase 'unchristianize the Legislature'"; and *Should Jews be admitted to Civil Offices among their Christian fellow-countrymen?* A Sermon, arguing in the affirmative, by the Rev. J. Lupton, M.A. Lieut.-Col. Haigh publishes a second edition of *A Brief View of the Truth of the Trinity*; Mr. Drummond Chase, *Constitutional Loyalty*, a Sermon, preached at Oxford; Mr. W. Cooke, *Weekly Communion the Clergy's Right and the Layman's Duty*, a Sermon, preached at Newmarket; Mr. Philip Rayson a tract, entitled *Indications of the Bible*; and the Rev. T. S. Green two specimens of *The New Testament Translated*.

Among other of Mr. Routledge's cheap and legible reprints is included Mr. Raymond's *Life and Enterprises of Robert William Elliston*,—that lively, but somewhat theatrical biography of the capital actor and gay adventurer so jocularly apostrophized by Charles Lamb, with the engraving from Harlowe's spirited portrait, at the Garrick Club, to face the frontispiece.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

A Lord of the Creation, by the Author of 'Ethel,' post 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Adams's Lectures Selectæ, new edit. 18mo. 1s. cl.
Beccroft's Iron Trade, 4th edit. by Butler, 18mo. 12s. half-bound.
Boucher's Mensuration, Plans and Solid, 18mo. 3s. cl.
Brown's Illustrated Guide to Salisbury, 18mo. 3s. 6d. swd.
Gardner (Mrs. M.), Narrative of, by Mrs. Palmer, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Gerrard's Essays on the Divine Purpose in Creation, 8vo. 12s. cl.
Gilbert's Logic for the Million, 5th edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Gill's Introductory Text-Book to School Management, 4s. 6d. swd.
Goodwin's Elementary Course of Mathematics, 9th edit. 8vo. 15s.
Gordon's Heart Effusions, square, 2s. cl.
Gregg's King Edward the Sixth, an Historical Drama, 8vo. 3s.

Grey's Old Dover House, new edit. 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Higgins's Earth, its Physical Condition, new edit. 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Holdsworth's Geology, Minerals, Mines, and Soils of Ireland, 3s.
Keenan's Model Schools, 4s. Objects, 7s. 6d. 1s. swd.
La Fontaine, Fables, par Léviass, revues par Chauvel, 5 ed. 4s. 6d.
La Fontaine, Select Fables, with English Notes by Gasc, 8vo. 3s.
Labour and Life, a Story, by the Author of 'Benham,' 8s. cl.
Library of Old Authors, Homer's Odysseys, translated by Chapman, with Notes by Hooper, 3 vols. 8vo. 12s. cl.; Webster's Dramatic Works, edited by Hazlitt, Vols. 1 and 2, 8vo. 10s. cl.
Lore in Light and Shadow, Vol. 1.—Shirley Anne, by the Author of 'Ethel,' Vol. 2.—Katherine Evering, by the Author of 'Mr. Arle,' post 8vo. 10s. 6d. each, cl.
Maquière's Home, its Rights and its Institutions, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.
M'Lauchlan's Celtic Gleannings, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Orr's Theism, a Treatise on God, Providence, & Immortality, 10s.
Parlor Library, 'James's Man at Arms,' 1s. 6d. bds.
Smith's City Poems, 8vo. 5s. cl.
Smith's Dyer's Instructor, 2nd edit. 12mo. 21s. cl.
Soyer's Culinary Campaign, illustrated, post 8vo. 6s. cl.
Spurgeon's Physician for All, Second Curriculum, 8vo. 7s. cl.
Taylor's Mark Wilton, the Merchant's Clerk, 8s. 6d. cl.
Twelve Sermons for Working Classes in Exeter Hall, 1s. swd.
Vade-Mecum to the Study of English History, 2nd edit. 2s. cl.
Webster's Monthly Periods of the Atmospheric Actions, 10s. 6d.

AMERICAN IMPORTATIONS.

Allen's American Herd Book, 8vo. 54s.
American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac, 1859, imp. 8vo. 12s.
Bonner's Child's History of Greece, 3 vols. 12mo. 7s. cl.
Bury's Materials of American History, 18mo. 6s. cl.
Gray's Botany, Vol. 1 (United States Exploring Expedition), 100 Plates, imp. folio, half bound in morocco, 10s. 10s.
Harris's Wisdom of Angels, 8vo. 12s. 6d.
Harris's Hymns of Spiritual Devotion, 12mo. 6s. 6d.
Hittell's Evidence against Christianity, 3 vols. 12mo. 10s.
M'Eligott's American Debater, 8mo. 6s.
Munde's Hydratic Treatment of Scarlet Fever, 8vo. 3s.
Munsell's Annals of Albany, Vol. 8, 18mo. 6s.
Proceed. of Acad. of Nat. Sciences at Philadelphia, N.S., 1857, 6s.
Quackenbush's Illness School of the United States, 8vo. 12s.
Report of the Trial of Dred Scott v. John T. A. Sandford, 8vo. 3s.
Swan's Three Years in Washington Territory, illust. 7s. 6d.
Transactions of American Philosophical Society, N.S. Vol. 1, 12s.

NONESUCH PALACE, APROPOS OF LOCAL TRADITION.

Cheam, August 18.

TWENTY years' residence in the village of Cheam has enabled me to garner some curious local traditions about this favourite residence of Queen Bess.

Local legend and the cross light it throws on history are, I think, far too much neglected, for what is tradition but history that has escaped writing down? Speaking down is something, for tradition is revisable when the actual place of a story is at hand to correct mistakes and rectify additions to the primitive myth. Lies are seldom purposeless, and purposeless lies I do not believe have much life in them. The story of Nonesuch and its short-lived Palace is well known, or ought to be. Plethoric Henry the Eighth riding after the stag from Hampton Court or Shene runs the deer to death at a pleasant village called Cuddington, at the foot of Banstead Downs, deigns to take refreshment at the knight's house there, and in return soon after buys up the pleasant vineyard of Naboth, pulls down the church (they show a hollow in a corn-field still as its site) and manor-house, and begins a palace. Death, in due time, but still years too late, felled the butcher-king, and the great palace remained unfilled, though the small grave grew tenanted. The Earl of Arundel, out of respect to king and master, bought the place and finished it, making it a stately congregation of courts, and gardens, and clock towers, and fountains, and covering the basement walls facing the terraces with stucco *alti rilievi* wrought by Italian craftsmen "fair and fetively." In the fullness of time, after red Smithfields, a little noise at the Tower, and much sonorous Spanish talked therein, came Elizabeth to the throne. She bought Nonesuch of the Earl, and made it her favourite residence,—Cheam being healthy to a proverb; notorious for its salubrity as for its mutton, about which there is another proverb common in the fair county of Surrey. Here happened the disgrace of Essex after his petulant abandonment of the government of Ireland and his foolish and impolitic peace with the rebel Earl of Tyrone. Here, booted and splashed, he forced his way up to the dressing-room of his sovereign, finding her with her hair (false hair) hanging about her shoulders. Private scandal reports that she never forgave this detection of her artificial charms. For a moment Essex regained her favour, but soon lost it again for ever. The local tradition of the cause of Elizabeth's abandonment of Nonesuch during her later heart-sickening and heart-breaking is, that one day as she was hunting on the high sloping downs a mile or two from her home she suddenly halted, and looking back beheld what she thought the palace roof on fire. She instantly, with her usual impetuosity, sent messengers back to inquire into the mischief, and found that what she had seen was only the reflection of the sun flashing upon the

slates of the turrets. Elizabeth never forgave herself the annoyance at this mistake, and from that time took a dislike to the pleasant palace with its fountains and avenues. The father of my informant was the old man who first ploughed up the site of the old palace, where Shakespeare may have acted and Bacon have uttered wisdom. It was expected that some treasure or at least some curious relics would be turned up, but nothing was found save a great iron bar and a stone globe from some bygone gateway. Shillings and half-crowns of Elizabeth are, however, frequently discovered here by the plough: the ruff still visible and the Imperial nose not quite effaced. Low Country tokens and Vespasian copper pieces of some early Roman encampment are not uncommon. I have, also, in my possession a curiosity—a shilling of Henry the Eighth—which, dated at the commencement of his reign, bears the evident effigy of his father. Is it possible that the minters used the old mould, merely altering the legend and date?—Perhaps, from some necessity of hurry. The names of several fields near Cheam remind us of the old Palace. There is the Stable Field, the Conduit Field, and Diana's Dyke. The Stable Field tells its own tale. Diana's Dyke—now a wide, flooded ditch spotted with moor hens—was once the conduit that supplied the great fountain of "Diana surprised by Acton" with water. In the railway embankment a few fields off, you may see the stone-pipes which were cut in two by the navigators during their preliminary works. A neighbouring cherry-orchard, sunk some six feet below the level of the adjoining part, was the site of the Palace gardens. One of the gardeners' cottages still remains. Some years ago, an open cesspool and innumerable stones and tiles showed the actual site of the Palace, but now there is nothing left but a great drain that runs under the adjoining avenue. The cherry-orchard barn has a palace ghost of its own. An enormous elm-tree in the next field, about twenty-seven feet round in the narrowest part, is pointed out, by local legends, as the spot where the last deer of the old park was killed and cooked. It is still called "the venison kitchen," and is likely to last the century out. The only trace of the Palace to be found amongst our tombs is a flat, blue stone, laid down to the memory of the Sergeant of the Wine-cellar to Charles the First; but the Rectory and an old gable-ended house in the village are said to have been repaired with oak wainscoting, &c., from Nonesuch. Not a single person in the village now knows that the Palace, having been occupied by one of Cromwell's generals, was afterwards given, by Charles the Second, to the rapacious Duchess of Portsmouth, who, afraid of its being reclaimed, pulled it down and sold the materials. Perhaps there is no instance of so short-lived a palace.

Local tradition has not preserved much for our village; but what does exist might furnish a footnote to history, and serve to verify a few doubtful or unsettled points, sites, and dates. Between Nonesuch and Kingston is the common where the great Cavalier skirmish was during the Civil Wars, when young Villiers, the brother of Dryden's Zimri, Buckingham, was killed. Near Howell Hill (Qu. old British chief) has been the site of some old Danish battle. Headless skeletons have been found there by my informants, and I have seen a rubbed-out silver fibula found in the same spot. The poor people have a great idea about the *Denes* (Danes) and their landing. Several men have told me that, if they had leave to grub up the old burial heaps, they could find "a mint o' money." The Duke of Bedford once had a house here. His lady's maid is buried in our church. The palace subsequently became a stocking-factory, and is now a garden and stables. We have a good many stories here about old-time smuggling, when mounted gangs, of twenty men each, with a small anker of brandy at the saddle-bow, would ride into the village, by bridle paths, from Brighton (forty miles off), and, sounding a horn, summon the villagers to purchase. The neighbouring farmers were in league with them, and used to open their barns for storehouses. On one occasion, a barn full of brandy was set on fire to prevent its seizure by the Custom-House officers. When asked why

he did it, the farmer coolly said, "he burned the barn to kill the fleas," and from that day forth acquired the name of the "Fleakiller." The American radicals acquired the name of "Barn-burners" from a similar anecdote. My informant's father had known twenty Light-Horse quartered in the village allowing the smugglers to pass unquestioned. We have, also, in our limited history a tradition of files of French sailors, guarded by soldiers with bayonets, passing through on their way from Portsmouth. *Après* of this, Lord Nelson lived at Merton, not far off, and has been often met in the road by my informant's father, who described him as small and thin, but very kind, sociable, and affable. Of our brick church, not much can be said. Only the tower is old—the rest was burnt down in Charles the First's time by lightning. On one old slab in the chancel we read, that somebody lies "so many feet from this pillar":—no pillars now exist. In the tower under the clock may still be seen a rift plastered up by a cross-shaped clamp. About this there is also a legend. Laud was once curate in this church, and practised his earliest bowings and noddings at Cheam. When he was in prison, a friend brought him word of the crack in the church tower. The bigot, who, as his diary tells us, used to watch the spots on his nails with superstitious care, shook his head, and from that moment abandoned himself to his fate. Several Bishops have been incumbents of this parish. Amongst others, good Bishop Andrewes, who wrote the prayers. King James the First gave him, at the same time, Cheam and St. Andrew's in Holborn, saying, in an impromptu distich,

I give you Cheam for health,
And St. Andrew's for wealth.

Our old manorial family here was the Fromonds—one of whom married the daughter of Dr. Dee, the astrologer. Several brasses of the family still exist in this chapel, and a curious brass representing the Trinity. God the Father is an old man seated in a chair; the Dove is over his head, and Christ on the cross at his feet. Another brass of a knight has been cut in two to suit the purpose of the floor. I conclude with a wish that some more of your Correspondents would supply us with equally brief epitomes of local traditions not yet in print.

G. W. THORNBURY.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ANOTHER novelty, and one of some importance in relation to the family of Shakespeare, has recently turned up. How far it may tend to explain and illustrate any part of the history of our great poet and his connexions remains to be seen, for as yet the matter is quite recent, and the inquiry has to be followed up in its ramifications. It amounts at present to this—that there were Shakespeares resident, not only in Southwark, but in the very part of Southwark where William Shakespeare lived, many years before the Poet was born, and, of course, still longer before the Globe or any other theatre was built on the Banks. The evidence upon the point is necessarily documentary, and several of the names mentioned, as parties or witnesses to extant deeds, are the same as some of those of the poet's family connexions and contemporaries in the middle and near the close of the reign of Elizabeth. Elderton (the celebrated ballad-writer), Webbe (who at a later date married an Arden), Coon, or Comb (a family settled at Stratford-on-Avon), and Edmund Hammond, are names specifically introduced.

General Sabine has been appointed a foreign member of the Prussian Order of Merit in Science and the Arts, on the vacancy caused by the death of M. Cautley. On a vacancy occurring, three candidates are selected by the Academy of Sciences at Berlin, whose names are placed before the King, with whom, as Chancellor of the Order, the choice finally rests. Hitherto, and in this case also, the King has always chosen the candidate who had united the greatest number of suffrages in the Academy. The number of foreign members in the department of Science is limited to thirty, of whom there are now seven English, viz., Airy, Brewster, Brown, Faraday, Herschel, Owen, and Sabine.

Cable parted by an accident—experience gained—future success assured—such is, in substance, the report of Mr. C. T. Bright on the temporary failure of the attempt to lay down the Atlantic wire. The paying out of the cable—so far as we can judge from the Company's accounts—seems to have been successful up to the point at which the accident occurred—in spite of strong currents, high winds, and sudden dips in the ocean bed. At the moment at which we write the Directors are sitting in permanence,—but have not yet determined to renew their experiment in the present year.

We rejoice at being able to communicate cheering intelligence respecting the health of Sir Edwin Landseer, on the excellent authority of Mr. Bell:—

"15, Langham-place, August 19th.

"Having been with Sir Edwin Landseer, or in constant communication, during his present and former attacks of indisposition, I am enabled to state that he has been suffering from the result of over-exertion in his profession, and has already derived benefit from rest and change of air. The opinions of his medical advisers justify the belief that he is progressing towards recovery, and that he will shortly be enabled to resume his ordinary avocations.—I remain, &c., JACOB BELL."

Three new parts of Mr. Fry's 'National Portrait Gallery,' from photographs by Mr. Herbert Watkins, have appeared, containing likenesses and memoirs of Lord Brougham, the Earl Stanhope, and Douglas Jerrold. All are good, the portraits being the very visible presentment of each sitter, with the waste of thought and the eagerness of life stamped into the face. For power and fidelity we have seen no portraits to compare with these specimens. Such a work as Mr. Fry's 'National Portrait Gallery' will become indispensable to all readers.

The Ordnance Office has sent out an admirable plan of Delhi, constructed for the use of officers and engineers. Mr. Stanford and Mr. Wyld have also issued plans of the city of Delhi, better adapted, perhaps, for common use, showing the present position of the English forces, together with the nature of the ground and the situation of the forts and other defences. Each plan has its good points. Mr. Wyld's is on a larger scale, and gives more particulars of the internal arrangements of the city. Mr. Stanford's plan shows more of the surrounding country. Careful students of the operations of General Bernard will keep them both on the reading desk. Mr. Wyld's plan is accompanied, on an extra sheet, by an excellent popular map of Hindostan. Messrs. Chambers have published three broadsheets, under the title of 'Scientific Charts,' exhibiting pictorially the various laws of matter and motion—an excellent series for the school-room and lecture-room. After charts having the interest of a day, we will mention—though, through an accident, we are late in doing so—a chart which has an interest beyond the generation in which it appears—Mr. Newton's 'London, Westminster, and Southwark, as in the Olden Times,' accompanied by an explanatory and descriptive essay.

We have reason to believe that the Decimal Coinage Commissioners have received, and have had printed, a large number of sets of answers to the questions proposed for consideration by Lord Overstone. All who take interest in this subject will unite in praying the Commissioners to present these answers to the Crown and to Parliament at once, in order that, due form having been complied with, they may come fairly before the public. The moment the first report of the Commissioners appeared, followed by Lord Overstone's questions, we saw that a very great point had been gained, that the unmeaning and impossible penny system was quietly thrown on one side, and the question was brought to its proper issue. That issue is a very simple one. Shall we remain as we are, or shall we adopt the pound-and-mil system? Lord Overstone's questions and their answers are the first trial of this issue; the examination of evidence before the Commissioners on the pound-and-mil side will be the second, and a final debate in the House of Commons will probably be the third and last. Add to this what has preceded, the discussion of two scientific committees, evidence taken

by a Committee of the House, and two debates in the House itself, and surely the question will have been sufficiently handled. An extraordinary meeting of the Society of Arts was held on the 22nd of July, Mr. Weguelin, M.P., in the chair, for the purpose of keeping this discussion alive. The meeting was adjourned over the vacation. No advocate appeared on the penny side, and no one said a word for the existing system against the decimal principle. The only opposition arose from the advocates of the international system, who fought their point very gallantly, but who never impress a large meeting with the idea of the practicability of their scheme; and who ought to see, moreover, that their best chance lies in a speedy decimalization of the pound sterling. More than one of the council of their Association are active supporters of the pound-and-mil system, and believe that the victory of decimals in England would be as good a step towards a universal coinage, if such a thing be practicable, as can be taken.

Mr. Williams, late of Haileybury, and translator of some of the best of the Indian dramas, has been appointed Oriental Professor at Cheltenham College.

Geology has suffered two losses—in the deaths of Dean Conybeare and Miss Elizabeth Philpot, of Lyme. The Dean died last week, at Itchen Stoke, in Hampshire, following close upon his son, the Rev. W. J. Conybeare, whose religious novel—'Perversion'—our readers will remember. Dean Conybeare will be long remembered for the part he took in the scientific discussions to which the early discoveries of our great race of geologists gave rise a few years ago. Miss Philpot went upon the lias shore in company with Mary Anning almost daily. A fine collection at Lyme Regis, known and often visited by the greatest of British and Continental geologists, was the result. Some of the most remarkable specimens have been figured in the works of Buckland, Agassiz, &c. Miss Philpot was an example how much may be done for science by a judicious application of skill and judgment. Should any of our readers have been puzzled as to the derivation of Philpotie in catalogues of fossils, they will now understand whence the word was derived.

The well-known collection of large, middle, and small brass Roman coins, formed with taste and judgment by M. Herpin, of Paris, has been recently dispersed under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, and the various articles contained therein realized very high prices. Several of the coins were described as unique, and the whole of them were in the finest preservation; many of them highly patinated. It may be interesting to our readers to see some of the prices. Among the large brass were:—Julius Cæsar, 5*l.* 10*s.*—Augustus, 8*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Tiberius, 6*l.* 6*s.*—Claudius, 8*l.*—Nero, 10*l.* 15*s.*—Galba, 7*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*—Otho, 4*l.* 5*s.*—Vitellius, 15*l.*—Vespasian, 8*l.* 15*s.*—Domitian, 8*l.* 10*s.*—Trajan, a perfect gem, 43*l.* 10*s.*—Plotina, 21*l.* 10*s.*—Marciana, 11*l.*—Hadrian, 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*—Faustina junior, 16*l.*—Lucilla, 6*l.* 15*s.*—Commodus, 19*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Pertinax, 15*l.*—S. Severus, 19*l.* 5*s.*—Caracalla, unknown to Mionet, 25*l.* 10*s.*—Galenus, 20*l.* Among the silver were:—Clodius Macer, the rarest amongst his coins, 80*l.*—Vitellius, 15*l.*—Domitilla, 20*l.*—Domitia, 27*l.* 5*s.*—Cleopatra, 5*l.* 10*s.*—Agrippina junior, 9*l.* 5*s.*—Domitia, a matchless denarius, 11*l.* 15*s.*—Plotina, 6*l.* 10*s.*—Marciana, 10*l.* 10*s.*—Manlia Scantilla, 16*l.* 5*s.*—Pescennius Niger, extra fine, 50*l.*—Tranquillina, 44*l.* Among the middle brass were:—Augustus, 2*l.* 5*s.*—Livia, 3*l.* 9*s.*—Nero et Drusus, 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Poppæa, 3*l.* 3*s.*—Sabina, 7*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Antoninus Pius, 5*l.* 15*s.*—Pertinax, 5*l.* 15*s.* Among the gold were:—Trajan, 13*l.*—Aureus, 12*l.* 5*s.* Among the small brass were:—Domitian Domitianus, 2*l.* 2*s.*—Alexander, 13*l.*—Hannibalianus, 3*l.* 1*s.*—Diocletian, 5*l.* 5*s.*—Fausia Constantii the Second, 8*l.* 8*s.*—Probus, 5*l.* 15*s.*—Carus and Carinus, 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Nigrinian, 7*l.*—Julian the Usurper, 8*l.* 8*s.* Among the Roman medallions in bronze were:—Maximian Hercules, 16*l.*—Alexander Severus, an exquisite gem, 30*l.* 10*s.*—Julia Mammea, 11*l.*—Gallienus and Valerian, 8*l.*—Salonina and Gallienus, 6*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Aurelian, 5*l.* 10*s.*—Tacitus, 6*l.*—Diocletian, 12*l.* The entire sale produced 3,016*l.*

Besides his work 'On the Birds of France,' the Prince of Canino has left a pamphlet, 'On the Management of the Botanical Garden at Paris,' in which he complains bitterly about the habits of careless indolence in which the first learned Societies of France indulge. He reproaches them for not knowing their own riches. He maintains that they look upon the museums as on the graves of mummies; on the galleries, as if they were crypts. To rouse the management of the scientific collections out of its sleep, he proposes the formation of a permanent congress, whose business it should be to watch that they make catalogues, collect, discuss, and explore the treasures confided to their hands, and spread science and knowledge among the people. It is a question whether this pamphlet, unaltered and uncensored, will be allowed to see the light of Imperial France. The Prince has left his splendid collection of birds to the Museum of Natural History at Paris.

The 3rd of September next, being the centenary birthday of the late Grand-Duke Carl August, will be celebrated by the good town of Weimar in grand style. The foundation-stone of a monument to be erected to the princely friend of Goethe and Schiller will be laid on that day, and the statues of Goethe and Schiller, by Prof. Rietschel, as well as Wieland's statue, by Herr Gasser, will be unveiled on the 4th of September. In the Grand-Ducal Theatre a play, written by Dr. Dingelstedt for the occasion, and several masterpieces of the great German dramatists, will be represented by the first living actors of Germany. An excursion train of the Thuringian Railway will take the guests to Eisenach, in order to pay a visit to the Wartburg; and a grand concert, under the direction of Dr. Liszt, will bring the festival to a close on the 5th of September. A great number of visitors from all parts of Germany is expected to attend this gathering, and many are the preparations for their reception, as well as for the splendour of the day in general.

Herr Friedrich Steinmann, of Münster, Westphalia, once a fellow-student of Heinrich Heine at the University of Bonn, has published a stout volume of his recollections of the late poet,—"Heinrich Heine, Denkwürdigkeiten und Erlebnisse aus meinem Zusammenleben mit ihm." The book, although it cannot make claims to a literary character, is full of interesting detail, and ranks well enough with Herr Alfred Meissner's recollections of the later years of Heine. We learn by Herr Steinmann that Heine (according to his own entry in Steinmann's 'Stammbuch') was born in 1797, and not, as is generally believed, in the New Year's night of the new century, 1800. His first poem (communicated by the biographer) he made in 1810, on Napoleon's riding on horseback through the avenue of the 'Hofgarten' at Düsseldorf, an act prohibited by the police. In 1815, he celebrated the rising of the nation in a poem addressed to Germany. It is written in the tone of Körner and Schenkendorf, while, in a 'Dream' of 1816, the proper satirical vein of the poet shines out. In 1819, Heine went to Bonn (thanks to his uncle, Salomon Heine, who by this time had at last found out that his nephew was not likely to become a good banker), and, while there, fell in with the author of these recollections. Herr Steinmann gives a lively picture of the student-life of the newly-founded Rhenish University, where at that time Hengstenberg and Heine, Wolfgang Menzel and Hoffmann von Fallersleben, Liebig and Johannes Müller (the physiologist), applied themselves to science, poetry, and the rapier. Heine, in this stage of his development, sat at the feet of August Wilhelm Schlegel, whom, at a later period, he attacked so wickedly. Having left Bonn, he continued a lively correspondence with his friends there. The letters, addressed to Herr Steinmann, from Göttingen, are partly communicated, and yield an interesting insight into the poet's mind and the literary life of Germany about 1820. By them we learn, that the principal theme of all Heine's poetry, unrequited love, acted, at this time, an important part in his life. He loved a fair cousin, Evelina von Geldern; to her he addressed his finest songs; she was the "Engelsköpfchen auf Rheinweingoldgrund," as

well as the prototype of Zuleima in 'Almansor,' and of Maria in 'Ratcliffe.' But she did not return his love, and was married to another man while the poet was absent. After having seen Heine, in Herr Meissner's book, old and agonized on his ten years' death-bed, it is pleasing to find him here fresh and vigorous, in the heyday of youth, passion, and animal spirits. We recommend Herr Steinmann's pages to admirers of one in whom, to use the expression of a spirited Frenchman, the shrill, witty laughter of Voltaire was strangely blended with a long-drawn melancholy sound from 'Des Knaben Wunderhorn.'

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of Pictures by Ancient Masters and deceased British Artists, is OPEN daily, from Ten to Six, until the 26th inst.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogues, 6d. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

Will Close on the 31st inst.

MDLLE. ROSA BONHEUR'S great picture of the HORSE FAIR.—Messrs. F. & D. COLNAGHI & CO. beg to announce that the above Picture is now ON VIEW, from Nine to Six, at the GERMAN GALLERY, 168, New Bond Street. Admission, 1s.

BURFORD'S PANORAMA.—MOSCOW.—NOW OPEN, a magnificent PANORAMA of MOSCOW, with all the features of that great City, and the gorgeous entry of the Emperor Alexander II. into the Kremlin.—SIERRA LEONE and the Bernese Alps also on View. Open from Ten till dusk.—Admission to each, 1s.—Leicester Square.

THE MUTINY IN INDIA A QUESTION OF RACE.—A new and most interesting Lecture is delivered on the above subject EVERY EVENING at 8 o'clock by Dr. SEXTON at Dr. KAHN'S MUSEUM, 4, Coventry Street, Leicester Square. Lectures are also delivered as follows:—at 3 o'clock, Dr. Kahn 'On the Philosophy of Marriage,' and at 2 and 4 by Dr. Sexton, 'On Artificial Digestion.'—Admission, One Shilling. The Museum is open from 10 till 10.

FINE ARTS

THE NATIONAL GALLERY DEBATE.

Milan, August 6.

ON the 2nd of July, in reference to my exposure of that scandalous waste of revenue, the expenditure of 13,650*l.* on the Pisani Paul Veronese, Lord Elcho said that having been in Venice for three months, and made inquiries on the subject, he could vouch for the accuracy of every statement in Mr. Morris Moore's letter. Mr. Wilson, however, though utterly deficient of any personal local investigation, which alone could have rendered impeachment plausible, stigmatizes that same letter as "a tissue of misrepresentations."

The only attempt to confute my letter, and consequently to justify the affront put upon me, related to the "distribution" of the 13,650*l.* Mr. Wilson had the face to assert that Mr. Mündler had no concern whatever with that distribution! To this I oppose the following statement, forwarded to me hither from Venice by as high an authority on this subject as exists:—

"1. With regard to the sum of 150 Napoleons paid to Dubois Brothers, it was Mündler himself who took it to them, and he received from Mr. Henry Dubois severe reproaches, because, as it had been agreed between them that the Dubois were to have 4 per cent. for commission and settlement, as Mündler's sole mediators, consequently, upon the sum of 360,000 Austrian livres appropriated by Pisani, they were entitled by agreement to 14,400 Austrian livres (600 Napoleons, or 480*l.*); whereas they received only 3,600 Austrian livres (150 Napoleons, or 120*l.*)

"2. Mr. Henry Dubois gave Mündler a regular office receipt for the 150 Napoleons, and upbraided him for his folly and violation of faith with respect to their agreement, in having had recourse to four other mediators, who had demanded double the sum asked by the Dubois themselves. And indeed, this was within the truth; for the original pretensions of these four mediators were, that Mündler should bind himself, if he wished to get the picture, to pay the Signori Zen, Pisani's first steward, Dezan second steward, Monterucchi advocate, and Fabris restorer, the sum of 40,000 francs (1,600*l.*), since they declared that they would be satisfied with no less, and that this must be paid in advance.

"3. The sum of 40,000 francs appearing somewhat high in the eyes of the 'expert' Bavarian, after many sittings, tête-à-tête, and discussions with the above-mentioned gentlemen, and particularly with the advocate Signor Monterucchi, who insisted that so it must be settled, or not at all, the sum was reduced to 38,000 francs, or 1,600 Napoleons (1,280*l.*), which were paid by Mündler in

person, and Signor Zen gave him a receipt for all. Besides this receipt, there is the receipt of the Dubois, and another receipt from Pisani for 360,000 Austrian livres in Bank of Venice notes. It is a scandalous connivance of the English Government to make a round sum of 13,650*l.* appear as payment for a picture, when it can be proved beyond a doubt that no more was paid and received for it than 12,000*l.* This proceeding, I say, is, in my opinion, not very regular.

So much for the assertion that "Mr. Mündler had no concern whatever with the distribution of the money for the Pisani Paul Veronese." But here is more of the same kind.

On the 6th of July, in answer to a question obviously connected with a view to exculpate "Le Chevalier" Eastlake, Mr. Wilson stated that "the purchase of the Krüger Collection took place immediately after a Report from a Committee of the House, which practically put an end to the old constitution of the Board of Trustees, and before the new constitution was established;" that "this purchase had not been made with the advice, or even with the cognizance of the Trustees, but under the immediate advice, he believed, of Mr. Dyce;" that indeed "Sir C. Eastlake saw one of the pictures, which was sent home, but that he was in no way responsible for the purchase either of that picture or of the collection; neither were the Trustees of the National Gallery."

Reply 1. When the "Krüger Collection" was purchased, no change had occurred with regard to what Mr. Wilson terms "the old constitution of the Board of Trustees." The same Board "Le Chevalier" Eastlake included, the same Director, namely, Mr. Uwins, and Colonel Thwaites, the same Secretary, were still in office. Indeed, the Board of Trustees was the same as now. It was not until the 17th of April, 1854, that "Le Chevalier" Eastlake indited that instrument of resignation in which he "wished it to be clearly understood that it was not his intention to interfere in any way in future with the concerns of the National Gallery." (*Eastlake's Letter, Min. of Trustees, 1853, p. 16.*)

2. Mr. Dyce, never having held office at the National Gallery, cannot be responsible for any mismanagement there. The consequences of his "advice" are chargeable solely on the officials who had the little wit to follow it. Mr. Wilson insinuated that Mr. Dyce was responsible for the Krüger purchase, but he discreetly abstained from affirming it.

3. As to the Krüger Collection having been purchased without "even the cognizance of the Trustees," what follows will throw some light on the scrupulousness of him who taxes me with "misrepresentation."—"Lord Lansdowne (a Trustee) brought under the notice of the Trustees a negotiation entered into by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Gladstone) for a collection of early German pictures for sale at Minden:—Resolved (Eastlake present, and consenting), that the Trustees feel much satisfaction in leaving this negotiation in the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer" (*Min. of Trustees, 1853, p. 9*). Here then is proof that the Trustees were appealed to about this purchase, and that they sanctioned the "negotiations." Consequently, "Le Chevalier" Eastlake, as the professional Trustee, and hence as the highest authority at the National Gallery, is primarily responsible for the waste of 3,000*l.* upon these German daubs.

Recapitulation.—Misrepresentation No. 1. That "the purchase of the Krüger Collection was made without even the cognizance of the Trustees."—Misrepresentation No. 2. That "Sir C. Eastlake was in no way responsible for the purchase of the Krüger Collection."—Misrepresentation No. 3. That "Mr. Mündler had no concern whatever in the distribution of the 13,650*l.* for the Pisani Paul Veronese."—Whether to this list should be added Mr. Wilson's other assertion of July 3, namely, that for that vamped-up object, the 'Adoration of the Magi,' an "offer had been made of 400*l.* beyond the 1,979*l.* 2s. 2*d.* paid for it," I leave others to determine.

MORRIS MOORE.
* * We have omitted some paragraphs of Mr. Moore's letter:—leaving all that is necessary to

explain antecedent communications to the *Athenæum*.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The season at the Princess's Theatre closed last evening, and is said to be not only the longest but the most prosperous of the seven seasons Mr. Kean has already passed through. As Mr. Kean's productions are essentially artistic, a slight review of his latest doings may be fairly entered under that head. No one of the present managers evinces such earnest individuality in his productions as the presiding genius of the Princess's Theatre. His delight seems to lie in contrasts. 'Pizarro' was one of the earliest of this last season. After the strict classicism of the 'Winter's Tale,' in which Grecian details were probably never so minutely set forth before, we had presented to us a vision of gorgeous barbarism, abounding in realities, but distinguished by an absence of sympathy, excepting the human feelings, with all that had gone before it. The architecture, vegetation, costume, and manners were novel. In this play, we believe, Mr. Kean achieved scenic perfection, and flesh and blood realization, more thoroughly than in any other instance before or after. We had no chronological thoughts in the barbarian scenes. The Peruvians were to us like the Chinese, a people unlike all others and continuing unchanging as time rolled on. The Spaniards, by way of contrast, were individually the adventurers of the sixteenth century, and moving pictures by the hand of Velasquez or Zurbaran. The magnificent form of Pizarro wearing the cross of Calatrava, and the commanding figure of Elvira will never be forgotten by those who have seen them. Macready was distinguished as a classic, Mr. Kean is a comprehensive reader. No point of the latest information upon subjects connected with his plays is permitted to escape attention, and in this respect what he has done has the advantage of the most recent supplemental pages to a cyclopædia. In the 'Midsummer Night's Dream' beyond the display of excellent taste and perfect control over all theatrical resources there was little to elicit criticism of a superior order. A really very small stage was made to afford the effect of almost boundless space, and, by a wonderful management of various lights and scenic combinations, the spectators seemed to breathe the air of fairy-land. To succeed these startling features came the mediæval pageant of 'Richard the Second,' moving pages of the metrical history preserved in the British Museum. In respect of production this is perhaps the best of Mr. Kean's efforts in the historic series; but from the construction of the play itself there was less probability of its maintaining a position before the public, at least so long as 'Henry the Eighth' and the 'Winter's Tale' had done in previous seasons. The first scene of 'Richard the Second' was especially striking, most agreeable realizations to the antiquary and man of letters, where the King is seated in full council and the two disputants enter. The practical exhibition of their dresses as really capable—however uncomfortable—for the purposes of life, afforded a decided proof of the truthfulness of the old delineators, and that such things actually did exist, in very minuteness such. The tournament alone was an archaeological study, and the armour which encased the actors towards the close of the play markedly distinct from all other fabrics we had seen of Henry the Fourth, or the ancestors of the weak but impulsive Richard. Still the King displays no definite purpose; he is stricken with grief and sometimes wrestles with it. Unlike Hamlet, he keeps no hold on our attention. The play, however, seems to have been mightily relished by the audiences of 1857. The purely imaginative play of 'The Tempest' has been the last proof of the manager's power of stage combinations in expressing his poetic fancy. In this production Ariel is strictly treated as the attendant spirit; generally hovering in the air, and always distinguished from all corporeal surroundings by being alone clothed in the clear blue of the electric light, even when other lights are at the fullest. The ragings of the elements in the first storm, and peals of thunder, and tuneful howlings of the wind, are

rendered with a truthfulness never before attained. The scenic wildness of different parts of the island, barrenness converted suddenly into fertility, involving dances of naiads and sylvan deities, show abundantly the imaginative powers of the presiding genius and the resources of stage decoration. Mechanical contrivances and pictorial combination seem almost to have attained their height, and after this we seem to pant for simplicity. Mr. Kean still holds his purpose of throwing up the reins of government at the close of the season after next.

The following is from a Correspondent:—"That our contrivers of beauty for London are, in a preternaturally large number, descendants of Mr. Justice Over-do is a suspicion painfully often forced on me—as often as I take up the morning papers with the last night's wrangle over the schemes of competition or the new vote of money wasted in beginning what the next projector who gets into the ascendant will take a pride (and a principle) in not carrying out. The outward and visible signs of the family in question are ruefully often forced on my eyes, 'whenever I take my walks abroad.' How long will the gold on the top of Sir Charles's clock-tower at Westminster keep clean in the pure Westminster air may be the mean question of 'a scrub,' but it is a question that loungers in St. James's Park may be excused for pondering. The new feature, however, within those same pleasant precincts is a fact less problematical and sadly more prominent. This is the new iron bridge, now so far completed as to make its design appreciable. A heavier, uglier, more tasteless eyesore was surely never obtained by the most careful combination of chain, wire, and balustrade. What lightness and simplicity (a peculiar grace given by the piers from which the catenary curve droops) are attainable in this style of engineering architecture may be seen by any one who is ignorant of the Rhone, the Saarine, and the Dordogne, and knows only the river Thames at Hungerford Market. Whether anything more lumbering, more ungraceful, more preposterous, was ever contrived than the massive cast-iron cantilevers, or scrolls, or brackets (or *what* shall they be called), from which the footway over the ornamental water is to be hung, I submit to those who even submitted to the monstrosities of the Brighton Pagoda as an expression of the style and artistic culture of the reign of George the Fourth! Surely, the incessant fuss in which our Parliament is living and talking, with respect to Art and adornment of the metropolis, should have yielded us something better to be pulled down than this ill-looking iron bridge."

A great number of sculptural works, executed partly in wood and partly in plaster, will, at the end of next month, come under the hammer at Louvain, Belgium. They belong to the property left by the sculptor Karl Geerts, who died in 1855, in the forty-eighth year of his age, after having founded shortly before his death the school of sculpture at the Academy of Louvain, which has since acquired celebrity. The works of Art which are destined for the sale consist in several classical pieces, and the original models of 147 of Geert's works, mostly intended for churches.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—ITALIAN OPERA for TWELVE NIGHTS, at Playhouse prices, commencing on MONDAY, August 24.—MONDAY, LA TRAVIATA. Violetta, Madame Gassier; Germont, Signor Dragone (his first appearance in England); Alfredo, Signor Mario.—TUESDAY, 'NORMA.' Norma, Madame Gassier; Adalgisa, Madame Gassier (who has kindly consented to undertake the part).—WEDNESDAY, 'RIGOLETTO.' Gilda, Madame Gassier; Rigoletto, Signor Dragone; Duca, Signor Mario; Madama, Madame Albani.—THURSDAY, Friday, and Saturday will be duly announced.—Prices: Dress Circle, 7s.; Boxes, 5s.; Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Pit, 3s.; Gallery, 1s. 6d. Private Boxes, from One Guinea upwards, to be had at the Box-Office of the Theatre, of Cramer, Beale & Co., Regent Street; and of all the principal Libraries and Music-sellers.

ROYAL SURREY GARDENS.—GRAND CLOSING FESTIVAL and COUNTRY VILLAGE FAIR, to commence on MONDAY NEXT, Aug. 24, and continue a fortnight.—Messrs. Grist, Albani, Gossier, and other eminent Artists—M. Jullien's Orchestra and the Royal Surrey Gardens Choral Society. The whole of the musical arrangements under the direction of M. Jullien. The Amusements in the Gardens will comprise a Country Village Fair, with Rustic Sports and all English games, Balloon Ascents, Military Bands, Grand display of Fire Works under the direction of Mr. Southby. The Fair will commence each day at 4 o'clock. Concert in the Music Hall at half-past 7. Admission to the Gardens and Hall 1s.

NEW PUBLICATIONS. ENGLISH VOCAL MUSIC.

THE reader's patience is bespoken while we deal with certain English songs lately published, —seeing that their composers have wisely chosen, for words to treat, not namby-pamby rhyme without form, colour, or reality, but honest, true, and distinct lyrical poetry,—and for the most part, poetry capable of being felicitously mated with music. This is a good sign of the times, as we had occasion to remark when dealing with Miss Dolby's concert, and quoting the words of Mr. Kingsley's ballad, *Three fishers went sailing*, the music by John Hullah (Addison & Co.).—On the whole, this is satisfactory, because while the tune has in itself life and motion enough to go alone, there is scope left (as there ought to be) for the singer's saying of the musical and mournful words. Yet there is something harsh and crude in the manner in which the third and fourth lines end,—the first on the upper *r*, with a pause,—the second on the lower *e*. This may have been purposely intended by way of giving an abrupt and wild character to the ditty, analogous to like sequences in Scotch and Irish tunes, but it might easily have been reconsidered with advantage, since it frets the ear somewhat. We shall not soon give up our notion that the improvement and purification of melody are too much lost sight of by modern composers. The greater men we know to have been solicitous on the point. The satisfaction of the ear without satiety or platitudes may be studied with great profit in the mass of Haydn's music,—nay, even Beethoven, melody-breaker though he could be, proved that he could be anxious and self-correcting as a melody-maker when he wanted a clear theme on which to build the somewhat chaotic 'Ode to Joy' which concludes his ninth Symphony.—*The Rose upon my Balcony, Song from 'Vanity Fair,'* by W. M. Thackeray, Esq. By A. G. Kurtz. (Boosey & Sons.)—This is clever music to the song sung by the immortal Becky Sharp in the *Gaunt-House* Charades; but the author has hardly been careful enough to study the rhythm of the words which he has mated with his tune. The application of a six-eight measure to

The rose upon the balcony, &c.
is a mistake. The words clearly demand common time, and animation without undulation of movement,—a talking, *eight-in-a-bar* arrangement—"nata e parola," as the Italians have it—and how, we must ask, will it be possible to prolong and finish a shake agreeably on the last syllable of "bloom-ing" save by obliterating the "g," and thus making the singer appear slovenly? The same gentleman has set the other song from 'Vanity Fair,' *The Wind upon the Hill*, more successfully; in the German style—otherwise, with the marking interest and expression given to the instrumental accompaniment, not to the vocal part. The words are somewhat "uneasy," because of the ejaculation with which the lyric closes. Why not have taken a composer's licence, and by using the last line at first, burthen-wise,—have framed (as it were) the snow scene within a storm picture? We observe that Mr. Balfe has also been tempted by *Hark to the wind upon the hill* (Cramer & Co.), but his tune (like many of his later tunes) is somewhat affected and French in its rhythm and its intervals. The song is not one of his best.—(Here let us notice *As the sunshine to the flowers* (Cramer & Co.), by the same popular composer, which though called a "ballad," belongs rather to the *genre* "canzonet," since it is not divided into couplets, but is a song in a single movement, written for a mezzo-soprano voice, and capable of being sung by the same with expression.) We return for a moment to music for Mr. Thackeray's lyrics in Mr. Macfarren's four-part song, *The Mahogany Tree* (Cramer & Co.).—This is a stout and tuneable troll, though, like one already reviewed, it is spoiled because the musician has shown contempt for the symmetry of the poet's rhythm. Why, for instance, set one line

1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000

—so that three syllables shall take the place of one in the foregoing line? The words so precipitated

Magnitude, 11½. Daily motions, 39 seconds retrograde, and 3m. 34s. south. The planet was found with the five-foot Smythian telescope of the Hartwell House Observatory, which has been most kindly lent me for private use in leisure hours; and its motion was proved by the aid of an excellent chronometer, for the loan of which I am indebted to the liberality of Charles Fredsham, Esq., the well-known chronometer-maker of the Strand, London.—I remain, &c., NORMAN POGSON.
2, South Parade, Oxford, August 17.

Cymry and Cimbr.—Your report of Mr. J. Kennedy's paper 'On the Ethnology and Civilization of the Ancient Britons' suggests the remark, that to speculate satisfactorily on Celtic etymologies and affinities requires some small knowledge of the Celtic languages and the laws which regulate the changes of their vowels and consonants. Had Mr. Kennedy possessed this knowledge he would hardly have revived the old notion of the identity of the *Cymry* and the *Cimbr.* *Cymro* (a Welshman), of which *Cymry* is the plural, is certainly, as the late J. K. Zeusz has shown, a compound of the proposition *cyn*—in composition *cyn* (the Latin *con*)—and the substantive *bro*, land, country, anciently *brog*. *Cynbro*, *Cymbro*, *Cymro*, *Cymro*, accordingly means *conterraneus*, fellow-countryman. So in modern Breton *Kenvro* (= *Ken-bro*) is equivalent to *compatriota*, *qui est ejusdem terre* (Zeusz, 'Grammatica Celtica,' Lipsiæ, 1853, p. 873). The form *Cymro*, according to Zeusz, originated after the Saxon invasion: the most ancient form would have been *Combrogos* (not *Cimbro*), opposed to the well-known Gallic name *Allobroges*, i. e., *aliena terre incolæ* (Zeusz, p. 226).—Furthermore, I may observe that, if Mr. Kennedy will study the remarkable work to which I have referred, he will see reason to doubt the validity of the claim made by his 'Welsh scholars' to have Wendish considered a dialect of their language.

History in Eclipses.—I am sorry that I have not been able to make myself understood by Mr. Bosanquet, and that in consequence of this he persists in misrepresenting my meaning. I do not, as he seems to think, discredit the Greenwich observations. I admit them to be of the highest authority in determining the present secular motions of the moon, her apsis and her node. As to these, I raise no question. But I do not agree with Mr. Bosanquet that they are evidence as to what these motions were in the time of the Lydian war. Every astronomer admits that the moon's secular motion was several minutes less than it is now, while the motions of the apsis and node were greater; but no two astronomers seem to be agreed as to the precise amount of acceleration and retardation. Mr. Hansen has his own views on the subject; and he has expressed them in a table, which gives the additions to be made to the moon's mean longitude and her other elements, which he considers due to this acceleration and retardation. Now, while I accept all Mr. Hansen's other tables, I regard this particular table as empirical, and of no authority. I believe that Mr. Hansen has over-rated the moon's acceleration, and that the quantities which he has put down in this table are too great; and I proposed a method by which I thought it might be fairly tested whether I am right or wrong in this belief. I proposed to put out of consideration "controverted eclipses." There are three eclipses, those of 610, 603, and 585 B.C., the shadows in which might be made to pass over Cappadocia or Armenia, if the table of acceleration and retardation be properly adjusted. Mr. Hansen's table makes the shadow pass in the proper direction in 585, and not in either of the other years. But if the acceleration be diminished, the shadow would pass through the required region in one of the other eclipses and not in 585. My proposal was this. There are lunar phenomena of which the time, place, and circumstances have been accurately recorded. Let these be computed by the tables, and let the computed events be compared with the observed events; care being taken to distinguish what depends on the table which is on its trial from what is independent of it. It must then be positively determined whether that amount of acceleration which Mr. Hansen's table gives be correct, or that lesser amount which must be assumed in

order that either of the other eclipses should be that of Herodotus. Mr. Bosanquet tries to represent this test of the correctness of the tables as a very absurd one; and wishes to consider the cause as terminated, the infallible judge having spoken! For the present he may entertain that opinion; and I must be allowed to entertain mine; which is that the astronomical evidence bearing on the subject is as yet inconclusive, while the other evidence is decidedly in favour of the eclipse of 603 B.C. I observe that Mr. Airy has taken up a new eclipse;—that of Larissa in May, 557 B.C. The darkness at the Siege of Larissa was, according to the only authority on the subject that we possess, meteorological. On that, however, I will not dwell. But I must remark that Mr. Airy supposes that only twenty-eight years elapsed between the Lydian war of Cyaxares and the conquest of Assyria by Cyrus! This interval must have been, if we believe Herodotus, about fifty years. I presume, however, that Mr. Airy adopts Mr. Bosanquet's theory, of there having been two Cyresses, between whom the actions attributed to the great Cyrus are to be apportioned; from which it follows that Darius also had his double, and perhaps others also. Hypotheses of this kind may be useful in the way of removing anachronisms to those who can believe them; I cannot, however, do this myself, and I find it difficult to imagine how any one else can.

—I am, &c., EDW. HINCKS.

Killyleagh (Co. Down), Aug. 17.

Mr. Charles Reade's Corrupt English.—Allow me to congratulate Mr. Reade on the wonderful *prévoyance* which induced him to lay down the canon that all "stupid blunders" are the fault of the printer: thus transferring to the latter the ridicule of "being wise above that which is written" to the extent of twice spelling "ellipse" with a "y," within a few lines. It would be charity to refer the peccant printer to his "Liddell & Scott," *vocæ* "ἐλλειψις," and to remind him that originality is more easily attained by sinking below the ordinary level than by rising above it. If Mr. Reade's perceptions of style be sufficiently obtuse to induce him to defend so flagrant a vulgarity as "intended to," one can only regret that so clever a writer should be wanting in a kind of knowledge only obtained by habitual intercourse with refined society,—where the use of such an expression as the above, accompanied, as it probably would be, by "*riding in a carriage with a tall party*," &c., is one of the few *pierres de touche* available for purposes of demarcation. The overwhelming effect of the juxtaposition of Shakespeare and Kingsley is only equalled by the good taste of the after sentence. The nature of the "ellipse" being in both cases identical, I suggest that Mr. Reade should consider the possible deficiency of the "grain of intelligence," and in the Shakespearean "Go to" supply the "ellipse." Go to what? Does Lady Macbeth's ejaculation, "To bed, to bed," explain it? Any one acquainted with German will at once see that in this case (in German *geh zu, from zugehen*) we have merely the separable preposition, one of the Teutonic peculiarities, almost crushed with us by the Latin element, but still surviving in all cases where a sentence grammatically ends with a preposition. Mr. Reade's list of "idioms" is curious, and contains some widely different classes. Nos. 1 and 2 (so closely related as scarcely to deserve separate apartments) are mere inaccuracies, to be found corrected in any penny manual on the subject. No. 3 seems tolerably plain sailing. No. 4 may be regarded as a mere "ellipse" (though I doubt whether the *Académie* would seek their "idioms" on *cabaret* sign-boards). "Talented" and "gifted" are anomalies only admissible by general adoption. "Penny-wise and pound-foolish" are, like "coal-black," &c., relics of a power of composition in our language now nearly abandoned. In conclusion, may I remind Mr. Reade of Rogers's remark on Croker's criticism on Mr. Macaulay, as not inapplicable?

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